





## Lords of the jungle crash uselessly through the undergrowth

It was billed as the battle of the giants. This was to be Michael Heseltine's debut at the Dispatch Box as Deputy Prime Minister. John Major was away in America so the Lion King would roar on his behalf. Tony Blair would field his own deputy, John Prescott. In his place.

Nice as they are and sharp as they sometimes can be, Mr Blair and Mr Major are hardly Rambo of the Commons chamber. Though their spats grow daily more vicious, the hatpin is wielded as often

as the cudgel. Both can seem close to crossing the floor and pulling each other's hair. Prescott and Heseltine, however, are different: more of the old-school stampers and roarsers, Big Cats.

Heseltine, the man who for two decades has fused hearing aids and rattled pearls, dentures and teacups at Bournemouth, Brighton and Blackpool; Prescott, the trade unionist whom Tony mums used to frighten naughty children ("eat your runner beans, George, or Mr Prescott will

come and get you"), the former ship's steward who has massacred the English language, curled the mushy peas and warmed hearts in working-men's clubs from Hull to Doncaster. Now, at last, these two bruisers were to meet in combat. Two great beasts of the political jungle, in the same clearing, at the same time.

Lesser political animals — the Tory and Labour herds — peered nervously through the bamboo. The monkeys of the press gibbered in the trees.



**MATTHEW PATTEN**  
POLITICAL SKETCH

What could we expect? An anti-climax, naturally. From one side of the clearing entered the Lion King, to roar from his supporters. From the other, Buffalo Prescott stomped in, snorting. The buffalo's supporters roared even louder. "Questions to the Prime Minister," called Betty Boothroyd from the canopied

safety of Madam Speaker's tent. And the lion and the buffalo lunged forward at each other.

And missed each other. And lunged past each other. And bellowed and postured, and made a lot of noise and no sense at all — and crashed uselessly into the undergrowth. And that was it. Part

of the problem was that both were visibly nervous. Michael Heseltine's hand was shaking when he picked up his notes. John Prescott shouted out his questions like a schoolboy at reading practice. Determined to make an impact, Heseltine went even further over the top than his opponent, succeeding (where none has before) in making Mr Prescott sound positively statesmanlike.

Each achieved one half-strike. Welcoming Heseltine to his post, Prescott noted his presence at the Dispatch Box

for Prime Minister's Questions, and congratulated him on achieving his dream. This rattled Heseltine, but he retaliated with spirited mockery of Prescott's "rinder", the shadowy Peter Mandelson. Mr Blair's spin-doctor extraordinaire. As Mandelson was at that moment skulking just behind the Speaker's Chair and some of the Tories could see him, this cheered the Government side. But what would it have meant to the electorate beyond?

Thereafter, Prescott's ques-

tion (about the cost of something or other) and Heseltine's answers (pre-packaged: nothing to do with the question) generated noise, but little else. A number of small trees and shrubs were trampled in the fracas. Prescott left unharmed.

Heseltine left reflecting, perhaps a little ruefully, that being Prime Minister was a little bit harder than he had thought. Some of the rest of us left appreciating rather more than before. John Major's steady bat.

## Elder statesmen endorse Major's swing to the right

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

JOHN MAJORS gradual shift to the right on Europe and the economy in his quest for a distinctive platform in the next election were endorsed last night by two of the Conservative Party's elder statesmen.

Douglas Hurd, the former Foreign Secretary, called for a rethink on the European single currency to prevent it splitting the European Union. Chris Patten, the Governor of Hong Kong, urged substantial reductions in public spending to pave the way for tax cuts.

Their interventions were significant because both have long been regarded as two of the Tory Left's most prominent standard-bearers. The two London speeches were seen last night as a signal to the party's left-wing MPs worried about the apparent drift towards Euro-scepticism that maintaining the Conservative truce on Europe was essential to winning the election. The speeches were also regarded as acceptance on the Tory Left that a tough line on tax and Europe will be needed to put "clear blue water" between Mr Major and Tony Blair.

In his speech to the Conservative Group for Europe, Mr Hurd delivered his most cautious remarks about a single currency and European integration. He said that the process of transferring national powers to Brussels "has just about run its course".

But his remarks on mone-

itary union will most please the sceptics. He went out of the way to back the line being taken by Malcolm Rifkind, his successor, who has said that Britain should be prepared to accept a loss of influence in order to protect the national interest.

Mr Hurd said that it was right that Britain should be part of the preparations for a single currency, without being bound by the result. But those who by their signatures on the Maastricht treaty were committed to monetary union "need now to ponder the future".

A plan envisaged as the next big unifying leap forward had turned out to be divisive. "If it proceeds apace on a fixed timetable, we can foresee a European Union divided into three camps — those who can and will, those who can and prefer not to, and those who are keen but cannot join a single currency."

Whatever the outcome, divisions on this matter must not lead to the unravelling of the single market and the other achievements of the European Union as it stands today. The proposed leap forward must not become a backward slide.

A substantial majority of public opinion approved the fundamental reasoning for British membership but was not enthusiastic about further integration. "This public attitude may not be heroic but it is

full of sound sense. It is more widely shared across Europe than the political elites in continental countries would acknowledge."

Mr Patten, delivering a Conservative Political Centre lecture at Tory Central Office, gave powerful ammunition to Kenneth Clarke, whose attempts to pare the ambitions of ministers in the Cabinet's spending committee are proving difficult. It was time to challenge the assumption that there was an unbridgeable gap between public morality and public spending, he said.

"I find it hard to accept that existing public, taxpayer-funded provision is so pluperfect that it cannot be snipped, pruned or in some cases even dismantled," Hong Kong was not demonstratively worse off with much lower public spending than equivalent economies in Europe.

Peter Riddell, and tax cut row, page 8



Bertie Ross, principal of the college, and, below, Lewis winning the title in 1992

## Boxer mounts fight against deprivation with £2m college

By John O'Leary, Education Editor

LENNOX LEWIS, the first British boxer this century to win a world heavyweight championship, has put more than £1 million into a college for problem teenagers in the East End of London.

The college, which will bear his name, already has its first 11 "difficult and disadvantaged young men". Girls will be added next year, when the converted factory in Hackney is ready to take its full complement of 40 students.

Lewis will officially open the college on Friday. His donation has been matched by £1 million from his financial

adviser, Panos Ellades, who has spent two years bringing the project to fruition away from the glare of publicity. Their aim is to give "a fighting chance" to teenagers whose education has been disrupted, either by family circumstances, persistent truancy or expulsion from school.

Students aged between 15 and 18 will receive individual tuition in information technology, social skills, literacy and numeracy, as well as vocational training in electrical, plumbing, decorating or motor vehicle work. The college also has a recording studio,

photography unit and high-tech gymnasium.

Lewis, 30, is understood to have had the idea ten years ago when he was an emerging amateur boxer with a fierce ambition to help youngsters from an upbringing as deprived as his own. The boxer, who was born in Stratford and brought up by his single mother, once said: "No man can turn his back on his birthplace."

He moved to Canada in 1977 where he won an Olympic gold medal for that country in 1988. He returned to Britain in 1989 and won the WBC world



championship in 1992. The individual tuition in Lennox Lewis College is designed to offer a role model for young people otherwise likely to fall foul of the law.

Bertie Ross, the principal, specialised in problem children. The students will take six-week "taster" courses before committing themselves to the college for the year.

## Adams warning of IRA violence

Gerry Adams gave a strong warning yesterday of a return to IRA violence, accusing Britain of "militarising" the peace process.

At a press conference in west Belfast the Sinn Féin leader said the Government was taking risks by insisting on the decommissioning of IRA arms before all-party talks could begin. Mr Adams added: "It is valid to say that the British stance has reinforced the argument for physical force republicanism because the British have had an opportunity which they have continually spurned over the past 15 months."

## New Tube strikes

Commuters in London face disruption in the run-up to Christmas as Tube drivers voted for further strikes over pay and conditions. Members of the RMT union, who were balloted by post, backed industrial action by a majority of two to one. Union executives meet today to arrange dates for the strikes.

## Twins buried

The Siamese twins Nicole and Chloe Asbury, who died five weeks after their birth, were buried after a simple funeral service. Brian and Melanie Asbury, whose baby daughters died last week after developing a rare bowel infection, comforted each other during the service at Denton Cemetery Chapel, Manchester.

## QC's free offer

Anthony Scrivener, QC, the former Bar chairman, will represent Private Lee Clegg free of charge if Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, allows an appeal against the paratrooper's murder conviction. Clegg, 26, who shot a Belfast joyrider at a checkpoint, is making his third appeal application.

## Appeal payout

The Home Secretary was ordered to pay half the costs of a judicial review application from a man appealing against his conviction for a betting fraud 13 years ago. The High Court awarded the costs to Kenneth Richardson on the ground that his case had succeeded in reaching the Court of Appeal.

## Canister inquiry

The Government has ordered an urgent inquiry into the origin of dangerous canisters that have been washed up on Scotland's southwest coast. One child has been burnt after picking up a phosphorous container. A survey of Beaufort Dyke, an area of sea used as a munitions dump, will start before Christmas.

## Times award

Iain R. Webb, fashion editor of *The Times*, was voted Fashion Journalist of the Year last night by designers and buyers at the Lloyds Bank British Fashion Awards. He worked in the fashion industry for 15 years after graduating from St Martin's School of Art, London. "Iain Webb is immensely knowledgeable and his initial training comes through so much," Clinton Silver, chairman of the British Fashion Council, said. Fashion, page 14

## Europe's leaders 'exposed'

Continued from page 1

indifferent about Mr Santer and is treating him carelessly and superficially," she wrote. "The relationship between M Chirac and Mr Santer is bad, first and foremost because M Chirac is totally indifferent about Mr Santer and is treating him carelessly and superficially," she wrote.

Michel Barnier, French Minister for European Affairs, is said to be utterly out of his depth. "He appeared so completely confused at Brussels I wanted to be quite sure other members of my staff knew what was going on."

Yves Thibault de Silguy, the French monetary affairs commissioner, had made an unprofessional attack on her over France's test programme. "One of France's commissioners was very angry but not very well briefed."

On the frequent absences of the German commissioner for industry: "Martin Bangemann did not attend the meeting, but the situation is such that I am more surprised when he actually is present than otherwise."

On European leaders in general: "It is difficult to see any who has any ambitions to do anything other than keeping things going as they always have been and hold on to their posts."

Mrs Bjerregaard had comfort for fellow commissioners who might fear featuring in the next instalment: "The book does not record all the conversations I have with them."

## Gurkhas kept on to solve Army's manpower crisis

FROM MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

FOUR hundred Gurkhas due to be made redundant next year will be reprieved to help the Army to meet a drastic shortfall in recruits. Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister, announced yesterday that by April next year the Army will be undermanned by 2,000 soldiers because of poor recruiting figures. The infantry battalions in particular will be seriously short of trained strength.

Although it was planned to make 1,000 Gurkhas redundant in 1996 and 1997 under the Government's Options for Change defence review, the equivalent of three infantry companies will now be kept on to fill the gaps elsewhere in the Army.

Mr Soames's announcement in the Commons confirmed the dilemma now facing the Army. So many British military presence in Hong Kong comes to an end in July 1997. In addition to the 1,000 who were facing redundancy, a further 500 will go through natural wastage.

The Gurkhas they will not join regiments earmarked for tours of Northern Ireland because in civilian clothes they would be too easily identified. [The Defence Ministry has spent more than £7 million on official hospitality in the past 18 months, Mr Soames disclosed yesterday.]

required manpower figures. Apart from infantry battalions some of the reprieved Gurkhas will also be placed in Royal Corps of Signals units.

The announcement, which was warmly welcomed yesterday by Colonel David Willis, Colonel Brigade of Gurkhas, coincides with an historic appointment. Next month Major Bigaykumar Rawat will become the first Gurkha officer to command a Gurkha infantry battalion. Traditionally, Gurkha infantry battalions have been commanded by a British officer. The Gurkha major will be promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and will take command of the 1st Battalion Royal Gurkha Rifles in Hong Kong.

The reduction of the number of Gurkhas in the Army from 4,000 to 2,500 will be completed by the time the British military presence in Hong Kong comes to an end in July 1997. In addition to the 1,000 who were facing redundancy, a further 500 will go through natural wastage.

The Gurkhas they will not join regiments earmarked for tours of Northern Ireland because in civilian clothes they would be too easily identified. [The Defence Ministry has spent more than £7 million on official hospitality in the past 18 months, Mr Soames disclosed yesterday.]

## Strife-torn Virago Press for sale

By Dalya Alberge, Arts Correspondent

VIRAGO PRESS, the publishing house founded by women for women writers and, many assumed, for women readers, is up for sale. Prospective buyers are said to include the publishing heavyweights Random House, Bloomsbury and Little, Brown.

Another possibility, according to one source, is a takeover by a feminist group unconnected with the book trade.

The news is another chapter in a 22-year history of a publishing company that was forced last summer by dwindling sales to publish books by men. Larger

publishers had previously been inspired by Virago's example: putting feminist writers on their main lists. Virago has been hit by a series of resignations, rumours of rows and a recession that has badly bruised the book trade. Carmen Callil, one of the founders, resigned as its chairman earlier this year, followed by Harriet Spicer, its managing director.

One source said: "Virago has lost its way. Others have encroached on its territory. It is not worth a great deal at present."

Virago would neither confirm nor deny that the company was being sold. The first feminist publishing company, it made an immediate mark when it was

launched in 1973 with its Modern Classics series of women writers that included Edith Wharton and Vera Brittain.

In 1982 it joined the Chatto, Bodley Head and Cape group but recovered its independence in 1987 when it underwent a management buy-out.

Virago always insisted that its interest in women was giving voice to areas of literature that needed support. However, in 1987, it suffered the embarrassment of taking on a collection of short stories by an Asian woman named Rabia Khan. Only to discover that "she" was a "he": an Anglian priest called Toby Forward. Virago pulped the book, accusing the author of playing a "cruel hoax".

**SUN ALLIANCE**  
TOGETHER WE MAKE SOME ALLIANCE

# 6%

NET

## GUARANTEED

BY SUN ALLIANCE

**Guaranteed**  
The new Promise Bond gives 6% net income for 5 years for basic rate tax payers

**Guaranteed**  
The security of over 250 years of Sun Alliance experience

**Guaranteed**  
Your initial investment returned after 5½ years

**Guaranteed**  
No hidden annual charges

**Plus**  
A possible stock market bonus at the end of 5½ years

To register or for more information call freephone 0500 100 333 or clip the coupon and return it completed to Sun Alliance Investments On-Line, FREEPOST 3479, Reading, Berkshire RG10 9ZZ.

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone Number:

For your protection all telephone conversations are recorded. Please bear in mind that the current tax situation could change in the future. Sun Alliance Investments On-Line is a trading name of Phoenix Assurance plc which is registered in England with No 71805. (Registered Office: 1 Bartholomew Lane, London EC2N 2AB). Phoenix Assurance plc is regulated by the Financial Services Authority.

0500 100 333

OFFER CLOSES 15TH NOVEMBER



Inquiries begin into whether Sams may have had weapon made in prison workshop

## Jailers deny blame after killer attacks probation officer

By RICHARD FORD  
AND PAUL WILKINSON

TWO separate investigations were under way last night into an attack by the convicted killer Michael Sams on a woman probation officer in a top-security prison. As Sams was held in the segregation unit at Wakefield jail, prison officers accused the Probation Service of putting Julia Flack, the wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury, at risk by allowing her to hold open surgeries for inmates.

It was also disclosed that Sams, 33, serving life for murdering Julie Dart and kidnapping Stephanie Slater, a West Midlands estate agent, may have been carrying a spiked weapon made in the prison workshop. He is regarded as an extremely dangerous prisoner who hates women and had made veiled threats about female prison officers.

The attack on Mrs Flack, a probation officer in West Yorkshire, occurred only days after Sams, a Category A prisoner who has an artificial leg, was transferred from D wing to B wing of the jail.

Mrs Flack, 49, was alone in a small office on the wing, which holds 130 inmates, on Monday lunchtime when



Julia Flack: attacked with her own key chain

Sams attacked her. There were no prison officers in the room or outside the door and he had not made an appointment to see her. Sams had collected his lunch from a server on the wing and as other prisoners milled around playing table tennis, chatting or relaxing in their cells, he went to see Mrs Flack.

He entered the room and, according to probation service sources, pulled Mrs Flack as she sat her desk and then attempted to throttle her with her key chain. Mrs Flack hit a panic button and started screaming. A spokeswoman

for the Prison Service denied that Sams had thrown food over Mrs Flack. A prisoner heard her screams and alerted prison officers who ran to the room. Last night some reports said that the prisoner who raised the alarm had dragged Sams off the probation officer. Sams was then taken to the jail's segregation unit by officers using control and restraint techniques.

A prison source described hearing Mrs Flack, who had worked at the prison for eight months, give out a "wailing scream" as Sams grabbed her. He said: "Sams is an extremely arrogant man and is very unpopular with other prisoners. If the prison officers had not run to Mrs Flack's aid as quickly as they did, I am sure the inmates would have grabbed Sams. Mrs Flack is very well liked and respected."

Mrs Flack, a probation officer for 27 years, was treated for minor injuries at the prison and then went home to Horbury, West Yorkshire. Her husband, the Ven John Flack, said: "My wife's injuries are minor but she is still very shocked. She will not be going back to work for a few days. Returning to work will depend on a variety of factors, including what the West Yorkshire Probation Service feel



Sams in his prison cell. The judge who gave him four life sentences said he was "a dangerous and evil man"

about it." Police are carrying out an investigation into whether Sams was carrying a weapon.

A separate internal prison service enquiry has also started. Last night Harry Fletcher, of the National Association of Probation Officers, called for an urgent review of open-door interviews with prisoners and demanded to know why Sams had not been

under close observation. The attack provoked a furious response from the Prison Officers Association who claimed they had warned the governor about comments Sams had made about female staff.

They also blamed the Probation Service for putting Mrs Flack at risk by abandoning appointments and escorts for meetings with probation officers. An officer said that until

two years ago anyone wishing to see a probation officer had to apply to a prison officer and an officer would escort inmates to and from the meeting. "Now they just wander in. They have got very liberal and adopted this open door policy. We are against it."

Sams was found guilty by a Nottingham Crown Court jury in July 1993 of the murder and kidnapping of Miss Dart

in 1991 and the kidnapping and unlawful imprisonment of Miss Slater. Mr Justice Judge, sentencing him to four life sentences, said he was "extremely dangerous and evil". Sams was moved to Wakefield jail 18 months ago. The top-security prison with 300 inmates is run by Bob Duncan, 54, who has been governor for three years.

## Employee used BT computer to find number

By TIM JONES

AN ACCOUNTS manager at BT who was dismissed for using a company computer to discover the ex-directory telephone number of a woman he had met and making nuisance calls lost his case for unfair dismissal yesterday.

Andrew Forey, 35, had been dismissed on grounds of gross misconduct. The hearing in Croydon, south London, was told that, through a lonely-hearts advertisement, he had met Kim Manning a few times and she had decided not to pursue a relationship. To prevent further contact with Mr Forey, who worked at BT's headquarters in Croydon, she decided to go ex-directory.

Ms Manning, the hearing was told, became frightened when Mr Forey began pestering her with calls. When she asked how he had got her number he allegedly replied: "You forget who I work for."

Ms Manning contacted BT's nuisance calls bureau and BT engineers traced the calls to Mr Forey's home and work numbers.

Peter Jenkins, a BT personnel manager, said Mr Forey had found her number by using a computer system holding classified information. "Mr Forey not only placed himself in jeopardy of criminal prosecution but also BT."

Mr Forey claimed he had obtained the confidential number to check if she was all right because she was worried about harassment from a former boyfriend. He said he had not pestered her.

## Black WPC 'had to change with male colleagues'

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

A BLACK woman police officer was given a locker in the men's room and referred to as a "darkie" by her male colleagues, an industrial tribunal was told yesterday. The 30-year-old WPC, who had to change in front of policemen, had her bra strap flicked and was pinched as she changed and was told by one officer "we have never had any darkies before".

The WPC, who cannot be named, is bringing an action for racial and sexual discrimination against Sussex Police. She told a Brighton tribunal that she had listed 50 complaints in one year alone to senior officers at her station, which were consistently ignored.

One sergeant who assessed her physical fitness had told her that she was given the job only because she was black. The WPC, who was representing herself, said that on joining the police as a probationary officer in March 1992, she was allocated the locker in the men's room despite the fact that all other women were housed elsewhere.

She told the hearing: "I asked about it but I was told to stop complaining or I would be branded a troublemaker and would spoil the lads' fun ... My locker was placed about three or four feet from the door so everyone walked past. As I changed I was pinched, or my bra was flicked or people pushed me into the locker. I would have my back to everyone walking in and I

would get pinched on the back."

She broke down as she told how she had been posted in her home town, although colleagues on the same intake were posted to unfamiliar places. "I was later to be victimised by my colleagues when they realised I had grown up on a council estate."

She also claims that a fellow female probationary officer had been given a better fitness report despite having a lower fitness level. When she confronted the assessing officer, he told her she would be unable to help in keeping public order because she was so slim.

Earlier, she said she had been bullied by a male inspector even before her official starting date. She had moved into police accommodation with her son but was telephoned by the previous occupant, who told her she would have to pay him £300 for the carpets as they belonged to him. When she refused he called round at the house. "He told me he was the inspector and if I didn't pay up I would never get in [the force]."

She said she had written the inspector a post-dated cheque for £240: "I was not going to risk my career over some dirty old carpets." She complained but was told by the administration department at her police station that there was nothing it could do.

Sussex Police deny sexual and racial discrimination. The case continues today.

## GPs' centre wins licence for patients to drink their health

By JEREMY LAURANCE  
HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

A GLASS of wine and a homemade meal will soon be available at a GPs' health centre. The Imbush Lodge Health Centre in Minehead, Somerset, which houses a GP surgery, a complementary health centre, a coffee shop and a pharmacy, yesterday obtained a licence to serve alcoholic drinks with meals.

Patients of the four-partner practice will now be able to treat themselves to a lager and a chicken pie in the "Spoonful of Sugar" coffee shop after visiting their doctor and obtaining pills from the pharmacy.

On the lunch menu yesterday there was prawn curry, cottage pie and cauliflower cheese followed by sherry trifle, apple pie or fruit flan. Up to 40 lunches are served in the 24-seat restaurant which is also open for morning coffee and afternoon tea. "Everything is



Charlie Hosegood: will serve drinks with meals

meals in the coffee shop. We are not opening a bar in the waiting room. There is no question of patients getting their tablets and washing them down with a swift half."

Dr Slade said the coffee shop was a separate business from the surgery with its own entrance. "The idea was to give a focal point for the local community. It is not going to make me rich," he said.

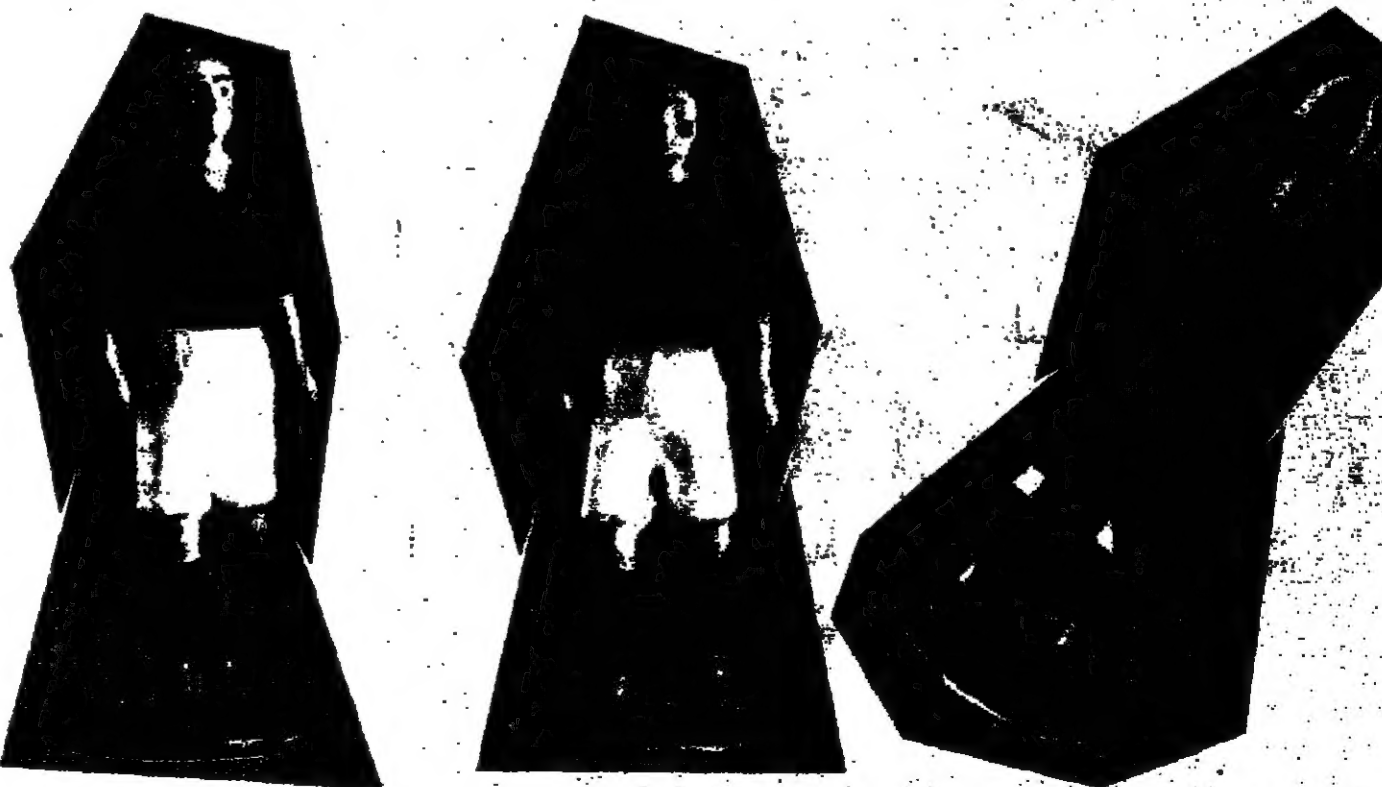
He had applied for the drinks licence after receiving requests from local businesses to hold Christmas parties in the coffee shop. The local church had also inquired about using it for wedding receptions. The town council had originally objected because it thought the doctors wanted to turn the surgery into a pub.

Dr Slade, a GP fundholder, decided to include the coffee shop to help to finance the cost of the building, which was opened last April.

With all these national players



wanting your electricity business



you'd better get on to one that saves

- ☐ I want the most competitive price
- ☐ I want a named account manager
- ☐ I want itemised bills which have been carefully checked
- ☐ I currently qualify as a 100kW customer
- ☐ I want to know how to get a competitive quotation

Name (Mr/Ms)

Position  
Company  
Address

Postcode

Nature of business

Electricity spend p.a.

London Electricity plc, Freeport, 45-47 Monument Hill, Weybridge, Surrey, KT13 8BB. Tel. 0800 11 77 33.

0800 11 77 33

GET ON TO LONDON

LONDON  
ELECTRICITY

هكذا من الأصل



# THE REFERENDUM PARTY.

## Statement of Aims.

### Why do we need the Referendum Party?

Both the Conservative and Labour parties are committed to the Maastricht Treaty which has resulted in a major transfer of sovereignty to European institutions. Both parties have refused to submit the European issue to a public vote or referendum. Fundamental constitutional changes, relinquishing sovereignty, should require the consent of the people.

The purpose of the Referendum Party is to present candidates whose single responsibility is to vote in Parliament for such a referendum.

### Is there anything else on the Referendum Party's political agenda?

No. The Referendum Party has been created for one reason only: to obtain a fair referendum on Europe. Once the referendum has been held, the Party will dissolve itself. This is explicitly written into the Party's constitution. The Referendum Party has no other agenda or purpose.

### But aren't referenda contrary to Britain's political tradition?

There have been 4 referenda since 1973, all on fundamental constitutional issues. They were:

\*The Northern Ireland Border Poll, 8 March 1973.

\*UK membership of the European Economic Community (EEC), 5 June 1975. (To be a member of the EEC as it was then structured according to the Treaty of Rome.)

\*Devolution for Scotland, 1 March 1979.

\*Devolution for Wales, 1 March 1979.

More recently, John Major has promised a referendum in Ulster on the outcome of the peace talks.

Britain's foremost constitutional authority, A.V.Dicey, wrote "the main use of the Referendum is to prevent the passing of any important Act which does not command the sanction of the electors."

"The Referendum supplies ... the best, if not the only possible, check upon ill-considered alterations in the fundamental institutions of the country."

### Why do we need a referendum?

It is almost impossible to find an issue more important to the nation than the Maastricht Treaty and its amendments. Germany's governing party, the alliance of the Christian Democrats and the C.S.U., last September published its vision of Europe. Since then, they have described their views publicly on numerous occasions. In effect, they believe that there should be a European supra-state into which would be fused all the nations of Europe. This state would have one Parliament, one Government, one Supreme Court of Justice, one currency.

Most of the Christian Democrats, in other European nations, including the British Conservative MEPs who are allied with the

Christian Democrats, and most European Socialists support the general line of the German proposals.

In 1975, when Britain voted by referendum to join the European Economic Community, the proposal was quite different. The Community was to consist of sovereign nations which would cooperate to their mutual advantage without abandoning their national identities. The concept was one of a family of nations, not of a single European supra-state.

No matter whether you are in favour of or against Maastricht, you should nonetheless welcome a referendum. Those in favour should realise that so radical a change needs to be endorsed by a majority of the public. Those opposed seek a right to vote against the proposals.

When both major parties hold similar views on a single vital issue of overwhelming importance the only way for the electorate to express itself is by a referendum.

### Does that mean the Referendum Party is opposed to the single market?

No. The Referendum Party's only policy concerns the need for a fair referendum on Maastricht and any successor treaty. However, it should be clear that there is a fundamental difference between the 1986 Single European Act, which removed barriers to the free movement of people, goods and services within Europe, and the Maastricht Treaty, which provides the legal and political framework for a single European supra-state. The latter represents an irreversible transfer of power and should be submitted to a popular vote.

### How many candidates will the Referendum Party field?

The Referendum Party will field candidates in each parliamentary constituency in which the principal candidates of the major parties are not committed to a fair referendum on the Maastricht Treaty and its proposed amendments.

### Will you be fielding candidates in Northern Ireland?

No. We believe that it would be a mistake to introduce yet another complication to Ulster at this critical time.

### Who will be your candidates?

Referendum Party candidates are ordinary men and women, trusted by their local communities, who share the conviction that there should be a referendum on Europe.

### Why "ordinary people"? Aren't your candidates likely to be politically inexperienced?

The Referendum Party's platform consists of one item only - the right to a referendum. We are not seeking professional politicians but, on the contrary, people who will go to Westminster, vote for a fair referendum, ensure that it is conducted fairly, and then return to their normal lives.

### Will the Referendum Party fight by-elections?

No.

### How can I participate in the Referendum Party's campaign?

We welcome support and active involvement and hope that those who share our objectives will register with us as supporters.

### Does the Referendum Party welcome as supporters those who are in favour of Maastricht but, nonetheless, approve of a referendum?

Of course. The Referendum Party's purpose is exclusively to obtain a referendum so that people can vote on an issue which will affect their whole future. After a referendum has been obtained, the party will dissolve itself and individual supporters will be free to campaign as they see fit.

### Have candidates already been recruited?

We have established a national organisation with regional representation which currently is appointing candidates. We are organising quietly but certainly throughout the country.

### Would it not be preferable just to support Eurosceptic MPs against their opponents?

In every constituency, we will make a political judgment as to whether or not to field a candidate. Our plan is to support MPs of the major parties who are formally committed to voting for a fair referendum, by not putting forward candidates against them. As we have witnessed in the present Parliament, it is not sufficient just to have a minority of Eurosceptics in the established parties to obtain a referendum, no matter the extent of their commitment.

### What do you mean by a "fair" referendum?

The question has to be fair and the terms of the debate have to be fair. The question should cover the Maastricht Treaty and its proposed subsequent amendments. The Treaty provides for Inter-Governmental Conferences (IGCs) which are empowered to alter its terms. The next IGC is scheduled for 1996.

The public should be allowed to vote on the broad issue and not be granted a pseudo-referendum restricting the question to technical issues.

Insofar as the debate is concerned, the time and money allocated to each side should be split between those in favour and those against. Maastricht is not a left-right issue. It is one of yes or no. It transcends the traditional party groupings. As all the established political parties are in favour of the Europe of Maastricht, they cannot be expected to determine the terms of the question or the rules of the debate. Both need to be settled independently.

### By what procedure?

A group of respected citizens whose members would consist, in equal proportions, of those in favour and those against the Europe of

Maastricht, should consider the issues publicly and put forward proposals to the Speaker of the House of Commons.

### If the main political parties commit to a referendum, will the Referendum Party stand down?

Yes. If the question and the terms of the debate are fair and the result is binding.

### Would the Referendum Party then dissolve itself?

Yes.

### What happens if the Referendum Party were to obtain a majority in a General Election?

It is possible to pass a single piece of legislation in a matter of weeks. Therefore, a Referendum Act could be passed quickly and a fresh General Election called immediately thereafter. In the interim, a national government would be formed whose members would be drawn from all political parties represented in the House of Commons.

### What would be the Referendum Party's policy if a number of its candidates were elected but not enough to constitute a majority?

Referendum Party MPs would vote tactically to best ensure the passing of a Referendum Act.

### Did Sir James Goldsmith found the Referendum Party?

Yes. The Referendum Party was founded by Sir James Goldsmith in November 1994. Before then, Sir James, who holds dual British and French nationality, co-founded a political group in France together with Philippe de Villiers, Charles de Gaulle and Thierry Jean-Pierre, the well-known anti-corruption prosecutor.

Thirteen members of the new group were elected and they now form part of the "Europe of Nations" group in the European Parliament. This group brings together MEPs from the Netherlands, Denmark and France and is chaired by Sir James.

### Does Sir James want to become a figure in British politics?

No. Sir James's objective is to obtain a referendum on this critical issue and let the people decide. He seeks no wider role on the political stage.

### Why would Sir James spend all this money for no reason?

The political leadership in both main parties are refusing a popular referendum. In effect, voters have been disenfranchised on an issue which will determine the nation's sovereignty and continued identity. There can be no better reason.

### Will Sir James be a Referendum Party candidate?

Yes. At the next general election, he will resume his residence in Surrey and stand for a local constituency.



Winchester jury told about the day that Heather West vanished and the discovery of her remains

## Pathologist shows how body in garden was dismembered

By RICHARD DUCE AND BILL FROST

A SENIOR pathologist yesterday described how he recovered the dismembered remains of Rosemary West's eldest daughter from the garden of 25 Cromwell Street.

Mrs West, 41, sat with her head bowed as Professor Bernard Knight showed Winchester Crown Court how he believed that Heather West had been decapitated and dissected at the site. He produced examples of neck vertebrae and a thigh bone for his demonstration to the murder trial jury.

Professor Knight, a Home Office pathologist of 40 years' experience, said that he recovered the bodies of nine young women and girls from the garden and the cellar of the house where Mrs West is alleged to have carried out depraved sexual acts with her husband Frederick, who committed suicide in prison.

Professor Knight said that all the bodies had probably been decapitated and dismembered. In most cases kneecaps and finger and toe bones were missing. It was impossible to determine whether dismemberment had taken place before or after death, he said. Because no body tissue remained it was also impossible to decide cause of death.

Professor Knight, who was called in by Gloucester police in February last year, said there were four possibilities to explain why so many bones were missing. He ruled out the rotting away of bone tissue or a failure by police search teams to find them.

That left only the options

that the bones had been deliberately removed or that the bodies had been moved from elsewhere before burial at Crispwell Street. He will tell the jury today what he believes to be the most likely answer.

The pathologist said that he first recovered the remains of Heather West, who vanished at the age of 16 in 1987, from the back garden of Cromwell Street on February 26 last year, followed by those of Alison Chambers and Shirley Robinson.

On March 7, between 9.30am and 6pm, he examined the bodies of five women from shallow graves inside the house. Four were found beneath the cellar and the fifth in a former garage inspection pit. Three days later Cromwell Street gave up its final secret when a ninth skeleton was discovered in the cellar. Professor Knight said that the remains of one victim, Shirley Hubbard, were found with a mask of adhesive tape wound around the head. A tube had been inserted into the nostril area, without which Miss Hubbard would have suffocated.

In the case of 16-year-old Miss Chambers, a wide leather belt with a big buckle had been wrapped around the head and looped under the chin. With the skeleton of the student Lucy Partington was an 18in knife and two cords knotted beneath her jaw.

Later Professor Knight went to the former home of the Wests at 25 Midland Road, where he discovered the remains of Mrs West's step-

daughter Charmaine, who was last seen alive in the early 1970s at the age of seven. Again some bones were missing.

The professor attended excavations in two fields near Mr West's former home at Much Marcle, Hereford and Worcester, where he recovered the remains of Mr West's first wife, Rena Costello, and those of a former nanny, Ann McFaul. Both bodies had been dismembered. Buried with Ms Costello was a small red boomerang.

Mrs West, who denies ten charges of murder, is not charged in connection with the last two discoveries. Professor Knight said that without the specialist knowledge of a surgeon or a butcher it would take a "good many minutes" to dismember a human body.

The trial continues today.



Professor Knight arriving at the court yesterday

## Builder 'told wife to spend night with his friend'

ROSEMARY WEST was compelled by her husband to spend the night with another man at his home just hours after being told that her daughter Heather had run away from 25 Cromwell Street, the court was told.

In taped interviews with detectives played to the court yesterday, she denied that the teenager had been murdered "because she was going to blow the whistle" on events at the family home where the bodies of nine young women and girls were found. Mrs West, 41, spoke too of her husband Frederick's violence towards her. He had tried to choke her on a number of occasions in "fits of anger".

She also said her daughter Heather "always seemed to hurt" her brothers and sisters. Mrs West claimed that the girl told the other children to swallow drinks laced with vinegar and salt. On the night of Heather's disappearance Mrs West was "instructed" by her husband to stay with one of his black friends who lived near Cromwell Street. "I can't remember his name, because



Onions: interview with Mrs West played to court

it's a Jamaican name," she said.

Asked by Detective Sergeant Terence Onions, one of the officers conducting the interviews in late February last year, whether she had been paid for sleeping with the man she replied: "Well, they used to give him [Frederick West] money."

Mrs West recalled the night she spent with the man vividly because she had not wanted to leave Cromwell Street. Heather's departure had up-

set the family. She had returned the next morning to get the children up. "Were you aware that Heather was dead on that particular day?" asked Detective Sergeant Onions. "No," Mrs West replied.

Was she aware that West needed time alone while she slept with his friend "to bury her [Heather]"? "No, I didn't know nothing about that."

Detective Sergeant Onions suggested that Heather had been murdered because she intended to speak out about what had happened over the years at 25 Cromwell Street. "Are you still maintaining that you know nothing of her death?" he asked. "I do not know nothing about it," she replied.

In a later taped interview played to the court, Mrs West told detectives that her husband had violently assaulted her during arguments. "He would just catch hold of your clothes at the neck," she said.

He would choke her for a couple of minutes before letting go. "He's only done it when he's angry. It was more when he was younger."

## Social service chief quits over blocked report

By PAUL WILKINSON

A COUNTY'S head of social services has resigned after it was disclosed that he suppressed an internal report claiming the "pindown" method of restraint was used by staff in one of the children's homes under his control.

Instead John Bennett, Northumberland's director of social services, submitted his own report to his authority and the Department of Health claiming that everything at Netheron Park, Stannington, was satisfactory.

Yesterday Northumberland County Council said that Mr Bennett, 59, would retire early on the ground of ill-health. He has been director for nine years but has been on sick leave for several weeks.

Northumberland also says it has asked the Crown Prosecution Service to reopen its files on claims of physical and sexual abuse at Meadowdale,

residents as part of their normal practice. The internal Northumberland report found methods "akin to pindown" were used in one of its nine homes but in 1992 Mr Bennett told his councillors there was "no cause for concern".

Among the allegations Mr Killgallon investigated at Meadowdale were reports that a 10-year-old boy, who suffered from cerebral palsy, was tied to his bed with a harness. Children who misbehaved were also put alone into a "time-out" room and staff used a technique called "kumckling" in which children were rapped on the head with a fist.

Six residents made allegations of sexual abuse which the report says ranged from "inappropriate contact to the most serious kind of assault". Some of the claims went back more than 20 years.

Two male and two female members of staff were suspended as part of the investigation and no longer work for the county. Reports were submitted to the CPS, but it decided not to prosecute as it did not consider the children could face a trial.

However, in the light of fresh information gathered by Mr Killgallon, Northumberland is asking the CPS to reopen its file on the alleged assaults at Meadowdale. The request is based on detailed information gathered by Mr Killgallon who examined evidence of serious assault on 10 children and minor incidents involving 42 others.

The decision to reopen the files was welcomed by Linda Mason, 48, a former cook at Meadowdale, who claims her attempts to notify the authorities of what was happening were ignored. She said: "I am absolutely delighted. At last someone believes me."

Mrs Mason, from Blyth, Northumberland, added: "What one member of staff did to an autistic child was absolutely disgusting. When he was slow in eating his meal he had his face forced into the food. The same worker physically dragged him by the hair and ears down a corridor."

"I've even seen one handicapped child kicked on the back of the legs by a worker. When I complained all they did was change the shift patterns so I wasn't at work at the same time as her, but I was told that the abuse carried on. No matter what I did no one would do anything about the abuse — they just swept it all under the carpet."



Linda Mason: she saw attacks on children

another of its homes, five miles away at Bedlington. The actions follow an independent inquiry by Bill Killgallon, the chief executive of the St Anne's Shelter and Housing Action in Leeds. He was asked to investigate the abuse allegations at Meadowdale, and during his inquiry discovered the internal Netheron Park report.

Last night Mr Killgallon said Mr Bennett's actions showed a serious "error of judgment" in an otherwise exemplary career. "He said his own inquiry team were wrong and that he knew Netheron Park better than them. This reasoning has not been accepted by the council."

The suppressed report was part of a national survey of care homes ordered by the health department in the wake of the Staffordshire pindown scandal of 1991 in which care workers were found to use severe physical restraint of

# PC without the plod.

From now on, no PC can stop you speeding. With Microsoft Office 95, the essential 32-bit business software for Windows 95, you can work up to 50% faster.

It's a flying squad of five new applications: Microsoft Excel 95 for spreadsheets, Word 95 for word processing, PowerPoint 95 for presentation graphics, Access 95 for databases and Schedule+ 95 for time management. It's armed with new features like the Office Binder, an electronic paper clip to hold work from different applications.

It has detective skills, in the guise of enhanced IntelliSense technology, to pick up your routines and do them for you.

Then, when you need help, it acts like a village bobby. You ask directions in your own words, and the Answer Wizard escorts you through the task. It may, however, be criminal to miss our offer.

Upgrade before 31st December 1995 and if you use any qualifying software you'll get a discount of up to £50.\*

So move along now please. Send the coupon for your free demo disk, information pack and details of your nearest reseller, or call 0800 95 95 95 ext 817 now.



Office 95

0800 95 95 95

Title: (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/D) \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Company Name: (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (inc. STD code) \_\_\_\_\_

Where do you mainly use your PC? Home ☐ Work ☐ Both ☐ No. of PCs on site: 1-4 ☐ 10-19 ☐ 20-49 ☐ 50-99 ☐ 100-249 ☐ 250-499 ☐ 500-999 ☐ 1,000-2,499 ☐ 2,500-9,999 ☐ 10,000+ ☐

Within your organisation, are you responsible for either setting software policy, for technical evaluation or purchase of software? Yes ☐ No ☐ Do you have either major or some influence in software purchases? Yes ☐ No ☐ Would you like your details passed to your nearest reseller? Yes ☐ No ☐

Please return to: Microsoft, Freepost BS4335, Bristol BS1 3YX.

Microsoft and the marketing materials used in this advertisement are trademarks of the Microsoft Corporation in the US and/or other countries. Office 95 has specific system requirements, please check before purchasing. \*Access is only included in Office Professional. \*Prices are set by dealers and may vary.



Street patrols must be increased to regain popular support, says auditors' draft report

## Police deny claim that beat officers are badly trained

By IAN MURRAY

THE police yesterday rejected allegations that officers on the beat were badly trained, inexperienced and poorly briefed. A draft report, prepared after a year-long study by the Audit Commission, severely criticised inefficiencies and mismanagement in the 43 police forces throughout England and Wales. According to the leaked 98-page draft, only 5 per cent of police strength is out on the beat at any one time, even though 60 per cent of the forces' £4 billion budget is allocated to providing operational patrols.

Although police strength is up by 8 per cent compared with 15 years ago, the public wants to see still more police on the beat. The Prime Minister recognised this by promising to put a further 5,000 police on patrol at a cost of £100 million, and Tony Blair is calling for more community policing.

The commission researchers have identified four reasons why the police are unable to satisfy the public's expectations of more patrols. They say that demand has outstripped the growth in resources; that bad management means officers spend too much time rushing between incidents; that time allocated to patrols is often poorly targeted and unproductive; and that the public's expectations are not realistic.

The draft says that demand is likely to continue to grow. In 1980 each officer handled 17 emergency calls a year, but now has to cope with 44. Inefficient control rooms, poor shift systems and uncoordinated use of special constables are said to exacerbate the problem.

The researchers felt that patrols lacked clear objectives, with beat patrolling often left to the most junior officers, and that performance was judged by the amount of work done rather than its effectiveness. Briefing was often too detailed to be useful and only 5 per cent of officers said they were properly debriefed by their sergeants.

The overall draft conclusion is that police will have to provide more community-based patrols to regain the public's support. Suggested efficiency measures could include introducing a "333 line" to allow real emergency calls to be weeded out. The experts also suggest reorganising control rooms, providing better instruction for policemen on the beat and encouraging

more senior officers to go back on street patrols. The Audit Commission, an independent watchdog set up in 1983 to monitor efficiency in local government services and NHS Trusts, decided more than a year ago to study the police force. Since then its researchers have been visiting typical forces round the country. Their findings have been compared with other studies, including the commission's own league tables of police performance, published last April.

The draft conclusions were sent out ten days ago to each



It is wrong to suggest that patrolling officers are neither directed nor adequately briefed for their role

Jim Sharples

chief constable, as well as the county and metropolitan local authority associations and the Home Office. "One of those must have been leaked," the commission spokesman said. "If the commission is to consult as widely as it needs to, this sort of thing is perhaps inevitable. The trouble is that the leak undermines the validity of the consultation process and makes it more difficult to produce a balanced report."

Jim Sharples, Chief Constable of Merseyside Police and president of the Association of Chief Police Officers, said: "It is wrong to suggest that in general patrolling officers are neither directed nor adequately briefed for their role. Many forces are moving to intelligi-

gence-driven, pro-active patrol work."

Superintendent Brian MacKenzie, president of the Police Superintendents' Association, denied that patrols were badly managed. "We have been managing patrolling officers far better than in the past. It does involve targeting of particular areas and briefings, and a lot of it is intelligence led," he said.

"The impression given, of officers simply aimlessly wandering about doing nothing, is wrong. It's difficult to quantify the value of the patrolling officer. What's undeniable is that the public, particularly the vulnerable such as the old, get tremendous reassurance from the patrolling officer."

Fred Broughton, national chairman of the Police Federation, said patrolling officers were a source of reassurance and were effective in tackling crime. "It is wrong to suggest the traditional patrolling is ineffective. In a recent survey for the Police Federation... it was found that two out of every five officers on patrol had made an arrest during their most recent period of duty, and a third had used stop and search powers in respect of persons suspected of crime."

The Audit Commission's findings have yet to be authorised by the commission's board. The final report will be published in late spring.

Andrew Foster, the Audit Commission's Comptroller, confirmed yesterday that the experts had identified ways in which police deployment could be improved. "We've also found some excellent examples of good practice, too," he said. He was worried, however, that the findings would be sensationalised as a result of the leak.

The commission refused yesterday to provide any good examples to balance the swingeing criticisms contained in the leaked draft. "This report is now out for consultation and will certainly be amended in the light of what we are told," a spokesman said.

The more coverage that is given to what the draft says the more credence is given to the idea that this is a finalised version. That undermines the consultation process which is a vital element in the development of the report."

Beat goes on, page 16  
Leading article, page 17



The public wants more police officers on the beat, although figures show that their impact on crime is minor

## Public see bobbies as deterrent

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE public's apparently insatiable demand for more "bobbies on the beat" has driven chief constables and local authorities to deploy private security guards as well as constables. In spite of research suggesting that patrols have a minor impact on crime, many people see their presence as a deterrent.

Police are embarking on a number of measures to tackle the problem, despite severe constraints imposed by the Government on expenditure. Forces are employing increasing numbers of lower-paid civilian workers to free more officers for frontline law and order duties. The number of civilians employed by the 43 forces in England and Wales has risen from 16,300 in 1979 to 50,973 in 1995 and they now carry out jobs such as transcribing tapes of interviews with suspects and monitoring closed-circuit television cameras.

The top management of the service has been streamlined by cutting out more than 100 high-salary posts, including the ranks of deputy chief constable and chief superintendent. Michael Howard has said that cutting the police

bureaucracy could free 3,000 officers for beat and other crime-fighting duties.

He has also acted to cut the huge amount of paperwork involved in bringing a prosecution. The Police Federation says that greater investment in information technology would free more officers for duties on the streets.

Mr Howard has also launched a drive to increase the number of Special Constables to 30,000 and has encouraged the creation of a network of Parish Constables to

provide reassuring foot patrols in areas including Ironville in Derbyshire, Sileghs in North Yorkshire, Yetminster in Dorset and Pembury in Kent.

He started a Street Watch scheme in which local residents 'patrolled' their neighbourhoods, acting as the eyes and ears of the police but with no more powers than any other citizen. However, Mr Howard said in June that a review of core and ancillary tasks did not find large numbers of duties that could be

done by other agencies. The study found "no scope for the police to withdraw from any major area of work".

As the police have struggled to meet the public's demand for more officers on the beat, local communities and authorities have turned to the private security industry for help. On some housing estates in Bristol, residents hired private guards, while Islington council in north London hired guards for several estates after residents demanded action against crime and gangs of youths.

The local authority in Sedgefield, Co Durham, created its own municipal force and in Corby, Northamptonshire, the council has paid for extra police foot-patrols.

An independent inquiry by the Police Foundation recommended the creation of designated patrol officers who would have limited powers to deal with street crime such as minor public order offences, drunkenness or theft. The inquiry also suggested that municipal, local community groups and private security companies could carry out patrols under licence from the police.

### PATROLS ARE PART OF THE POLICE

Core duties were "prevention of crime... the protection of life and property, the preservation of public tranquillity" when foot patrols began after the founding of the Metropolitan Police in 1829. Trainees today undertake 28-week course at police college in Hendon, north London. Weeks 1-2: Physical training, basic principles. Weeks 3-4: Allocated to division. Spend two weeks getting to know station and area including local landmarks, community leaders, courts and trouble spots. Patrol in uniform for first time accompanied by qualified officer. Weeks 5-18: Taught law, with practical tests such as how to stop a driver with a bald tyre. Many exercises are videotaped so mistakes can be discussed. Week 19: Holiday. Weeks 20-28: Back to the division on police duties. On patrol sometimes on their own or with an instructor.

## DNA tests begin in Naomi Smith case

Detectives began taking DNA samples yesterday from 800 males aged between 15 to 28 in their hunt for the killer of Naomi Smith, the schoolgirl found dead in Anstey Common, Warwickshire, last month.

Graham Sutton, 26, the first to volunteer for a mouth swab, urged every man in the village to come forward for the test. Volunteers are being fingerprinted and photographed. Detective Inspector Mick Hayward could not say how long the screening would take. "We are telling officers to be as scrupulous as possible."

### Campus raid

Two men wearing gas masks threatened the staff of a National Westminster bank on the Birmingham University campus with a gun and left off a smoke device. They escaped in a van with what police described as a substantial amount of cash.

### British beans

The first British-grown baked beans have gone on sale after three years' research. They are being sold by Sainsbury's in seven stores around the country, and were developed by the supermarket chain with the Plant Breeding Institute in Cambridge.

### Splasher fined

A deliveryman who soaked a pensioner at the roadside after driving into a puddle was fined £100 yesterday. Michael Estrin, of Cadby, Leicestershire, was convicted of driving without reasonable consideration by magistrates at Ilkley, Yorkshire.

### Waved goodbye

A new £30,000 boat collected from Dover ran aground off Newhaven, East Sussex, in bad weather and was smashed up by mountainous waves, leaving only the engine. The 70-year-old owner and a friend were rescued from the 33ft vessel by lifeboat.

### First past post

A village post office that opens 12 hours every day, except Christmas Day, has been named the best in Britain. Subpostmistress Jo Rees of Beddgelert, Gwynedd, received an engraved rosebowl and £750 from Post Office Counters in London.

### Barely alive

A man escaped with minor bruising after falling three floors when the front of his house collapsed. George Gayle walked away from the wrecked house in Huddersfield wearing only his underpants. Builders had been working on the floor below.

YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A LOTTERY.

TRY THESE NUMBERS INSTEAD.  
0800 100 888

Find out how Abbey National can help get your finances in better shape simply by calling us free at a time convenient for you. We're open Monday to Friday 8am to 9pm or Saturday 8am to 4pm, just quote reference A363C. You'll find there's no hard sell, just clear, straightforward financial advice.

With such long odds on winning the lottery, can you afford to leave your financial future to chance?



FINANCIAL PLANNING

For your security and to assist us in improving our service to you we may record or monitor all calls to Abbey National Direct. Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL, United Kingdom. ABBEY NATIONAL PLC, WHICH IS REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY, ONLY SELLS ITS OWN LIFE ASSURANCE, PENSION AND UNIT TRUST PRODUCTS.

## Rare disease may have killed Jane Austen

THE death of Jane Austen intrigued the late Sir Zachary Cope, a consultant surgeon at St Mary's Hospital, London, and one of the great abdominal surgeons of his era. Sir Zachary was convinced that the author of *Pride and Prejudice* died of Addison's disease, a wasting ailment, and he explained his diagnosis in the *British Medical Journal*.

Addison's disease is an uncommon condition, which affects about four people in 100,000, in which the cortex of the adrenal glands, small endocrine glands near the kidneys, are destroyed. These glands produce various steroid hormones, in particular cortisol and aldosterone.

Thomas Addison, 1793-1860, was a physician at Guy's Hospital. During that time a common cause for the destruction of adrenal cortex was its infiltration by tuberculosis. Now that TB is comparatively rare, only 20 per cent of cases are related to TB. Most of the rest are thought to be the result of an auto-immune disease, a condition in which the body produces antibodies to its own tissue. A few cases of Addison's stem from a spread of malignant disease. It is occasionally seen in AIDS cases.

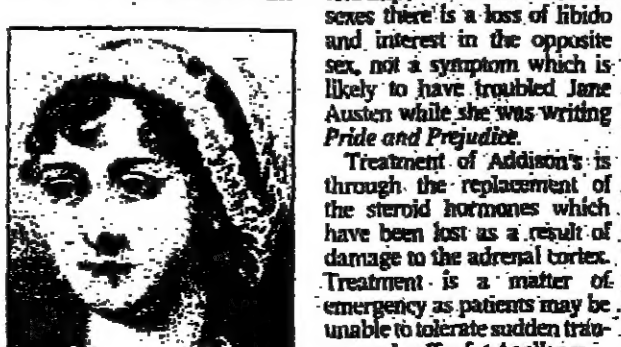
If Austen had Addison's disease, this would not only have accounted for such symptoms as excessive weariness, muscle pains and a tendency to faint but also from weight loss and increasing pigmentation of her skin, which is recorded. The fainting attacks are the result of patients with Addison's having such low blood pressure - the consequence of lack of steroids - that when they stand suddenly they frequently feel dizzy and



sometimes faint. The combination of weight loss, low blood pressure and an unusually tanned appearance usually alerts doctors to Addison's disease.

Excessive skin pigmentation is a result of a compensatory increased production of the adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH) by the pituitary gland, it first becomes obvious in freckles and moles, and scars become deeply pigmented. Parts of the body, such as the genitalia or the area around the nipple, which normally have a darker hue can appear almost slate grey.

Whereas any darkening in a healthy person's skin predominantly affects areas exposed to sunlight, in patients with Addison's the covered parts of the body also appear well tanned. Patches of dark pigmentation are even seen in the mouth and the creases of the



palms. Addison's disease produces many of the symptoms usually associated with a neurotic personality. Sufferers give a vague history of aching limbs, loss of appetite, ill-defined depression, dizziness, nausea and an unreliable bowel.

The weakness and tiredness is particularly marked and the difference between it and a patient suffering from an illness with a physical cause, such as Addison's, and one stemming from psychological causes is that in the former sleep brings about some recovery, whereas those with neurotic illnesses tend to be as weary in the morning as in the evening.

Following damage to the adrenal cortex by Addison's there are changes in sex hormone production resulting in amenorrhoea in women and impotence in men. In both sexes there is a loss of libido and interest in the opposite sex, not a symptom which is likely to have troubled Jane Austen while she was writing *Pride and Prejudice*.

Treatment of Addison's is through the replacement of the steroid hormones which have been lost as a result of damage to the adrenal cortex. Treatment is a matter of emergency as patients may be unable to tolerate sudden trauma and suffer fatal collapse.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORE

## Does God throw dice in black holes?

The Waterstone's lecture, sponsored by The Times and Icon

STEPHEN HAWKING, the legendary scientist and author of the phenomenal bestseller, *A Brief History of Time*, will make a rare public appearance at the Royal Albert Hall to deliver a lecture on Wednesday November 22 at 7.30pm.

Though robbed of speech and paralysed by an incurable wasting disease, Professor Hawking is one of the greatest scientific thinkers of our age. Unbound by the conventional procedures of scientific investigation, Hawking has been free to make bold leaps, tackling the most fundamental and important of all questions - how the universe began and how it will end. With the aid of his sophisticated computerised voice synthesiser, Professor Hawking will deliver his lecture and answer selected questions from the audience. The evening will be chaired by J.P. McEvoy, author of *Stephen Hawking for Beginners*.

Tickets are available at £12, £10, or £7 for concessions from the Royal Albert Hall ticket shop (open 9am-9pm daily); by telephone with a credit card on 017-589 8212; or by post using the coupon below (£2.50 transaction charge on all telephone and postal bookings).

All profits from the evening will be donated to the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Please send me (delete) at £10 / £12 each (concessions £7) for the Stephen Hawking lecture at the Royal Albert Hall, Wednesday, November 22 at 7.30pm. I have added £2.50 handling fee.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME PHONE No \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose my cheque made payable to The Royal Albert Hall

Value £ \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick your name and address on the back of the cheque

Or, please debit my Access / Amex / Visa card, number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please post coupon and remittance to: Stephen Hawking at the Royal Albert Hall, Ticket Shop, Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AP



# Enjoy a real power lunch.

Just imagine.

It's 1 o'clock and you're not going out to lunch. You're going out jet-skiing.

Or canoeing, or rowing.

After all, from Canary Wharf it's only 5 minutes to the nearest watersports centre, only 10 minutes to the jet-skiing.

In fact, with 23 water-based centres and over 430 acres of clean water to play with, the choice is bewildering.

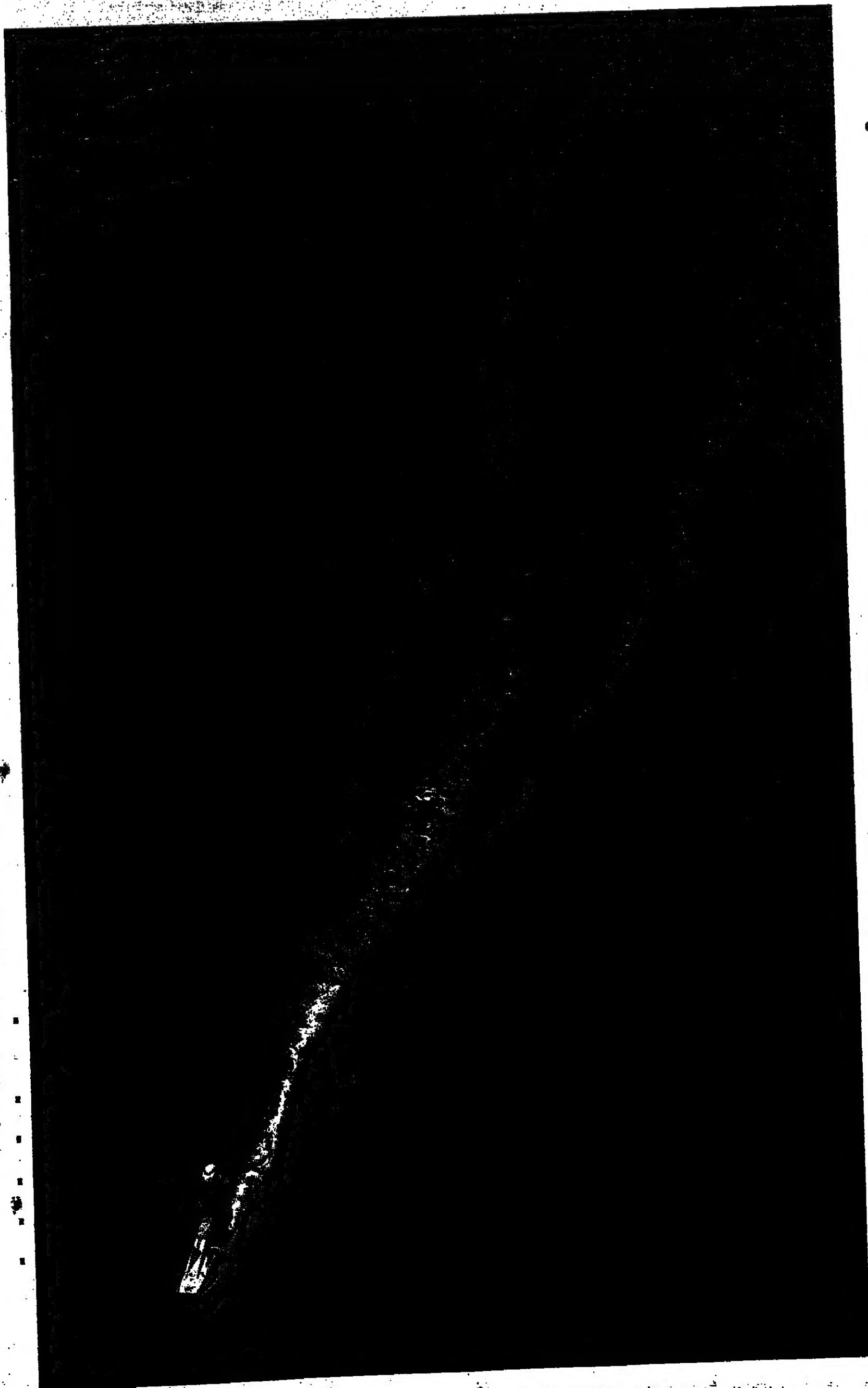
Though not, perhaps, as bewildering as the choice of restaurants and bars back on dry land.

A choice of almost 200 in fact. (That's a different place to eat or drink every day for six months.)

But if you still want to burn off some calories, burn down to the go-karting, the dry ski slope or the riding stables. Or work out at one of the local gyms.

In Docklands, lunchtimes are never dull. Go on, join the jet set.

**London Docklands**  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION TELEPHONE 0171-512 1111.



DNA test  
begin in  
Naomi  
Smith's

Campus rail

British bean

Splasher fix

Waved

First pass

Ward

God throw  
black holes









# Farmers demand wider badger cull to curb tuberculosis in cattle

By MICHAEL HORNSEY  
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

FARMERS called yesterday for stringent measures to stop badgers spreading tuberculosis to cattle and destroying crops.

In a report submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, the National Farmers' Union said that all TB-infected badgers should be killed and that the culling of others should be licensed where they are a pest. Farmers attribute a rapid rise in the number of dairy herds infected with TB to badgers, but wildlife groups say there is no clear evidence that the animals are spreading the disease.

The number of dairy herds infected with TB rose almost

threefold between 1991 and 1994, from 126 to 365, of which 277 were in southwest England. The number of TB-infected cattle slaughtered rose to 2,773 last year from 1,626 three years earlier.

Hugh Oliver-Bellasis, a Hampshire farmer who chaired the working party that produced the report, said: "We are convinced that badgers are implicated in the spread of the disease, which causes severe financial loss. It is essential that all infected badgers are taken out and that their sets are filled in."

The Ministry of Agriculture slaughters badgers if they react positively to a blood test for TB introduced last November to reduce the numbers being killed; previously

it had simply slaughtered badgers in areas with TB-infected herds. However, the new test is reliable only 40 per cent of the time, so that many infected badgers are missed while uninfected ones are killed.

Under current policy, lactating sows are spared so as to avoid leaving cubs motherless. The NFU says lactating sows must be culled as well.

Ian Ham, who keeps a 450-strong dairy herd near Axbridge, Somerset, said: "It sounds a bit brutal, but leaving infected sows to go free simply compounds the problem. The ideal solution would be a TB vaccine for badgers and cattle, but that is years ahead. In the meantime, we must have tougher controls." Mr

Ham had three cases of TB in his herd this year, the first time it had suffered from the disease in 14 years. "I cannot prove it but I have no doubt it is linked to an increase in badgers."

The badgers have established a latrine close to the road along which the cattle walk on their way to graze, and this could have been the source of infection. The badgers also damage the maize I grow as animal feed, rolling and trampling the crop to get at the cob."

Dairy farms with cattle that test positive for TB are quarantined for up to six months, and calves that would have been sent to market have to be kept on the farm. Farmers are compensated for slaughtered cattle, but this covers only 75 per cent of

their market value. The NFU report says badgers have moved out of woodland habitats to dig setts in open fields. "There have been instances of calves falling down setts in pasture land, and cows breaking legs and having to be destroyed," it says. About a third of the estimated 250,000 badgers in Britain live in southwest England — the area with the highest incidence of TB in both cattle and badgers.

Warren Cresswell, an ecologist and member of the National Federation of Badger Groups, said that badger culling should be suspended while more research was done. "Twenty years of killing an average of 1,000 badgers a year has not reduced cattle TB in any way."

## Budget cuts will add to pressure

# 30% more primary pupils taught in classes of over 40

By DAVID CHARLES  
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE number of primary school children in classes of 30 or more has increased by 11 per cent in a year, government figures disclosed yesterday. The total of 106,000 is expected to rise further as cuts to local authorities' education budgets take effect.

Don Foster, the Liberal Democrat education spokesman, obtained the statistics in parliamentary written answers which also disclosed that more than 18,000 primary pupils were in classes of 40 or more in January, an increase of 30 per cent on last year.

Ministers acknowledged last week that more than 1.15 million primary pupils were being taught in classes bigger than 30. Mr Foster said that the new figures were an embarrassment for a Government which had boasted of falling class sizes during the 1980s. He urged MPs to vote against any Budget proposals which threatened to worsen the situation.

The figures were "very worrying" and showed that over-large classes were a problem for a significant number of children, he said. "It is my absolute belief that children taught in classes of 40 or more cannot be receiving the high quality education they deserve and the nation needs them to have."

The issue of class sizes was taken to the top of the political agenda by Tony Blair's pledge at the Labour conference that the party would ensure that no primary pupil aged five to eight was taught in a class of



Foster described trend as "very worrying"

more than 30. The Liberal Democrats have resisted making any similar commitment, which Mr Foster described as a gimmick.

He said European experience showed that statutory limits on class sizes were unworkable, but agreed that classes of more than 30 were unacceptable. Instead he challenged Labour to vote against any Budget cuts if they meant that education funding would be hit.

Labour said that the onus was on the Government to take action to curb classroom numbers. Estelle Morris, an education spokeswoman, said: "We need action rather than words from ministers to make sure that this year's crisis is not repeated next year, and that class sizes don't rise yet further. The Government should ensure that all our schools have a fair deal next year."

A spokesman for the De-

partment for Education and Employment said that 2.8 per cent of primary school pupils were in classes of 30 or more, compared with 5.8 per cent in 1979. He added: "Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools has never suggested that current class sizes are depressing standards."

"It is the quality of teaching that counts. No account is taken in these figures of the thousands of classroom assistants who now help out in the early years." An "artificial restriction" on class size would restrict parents from choosing the schools of their choice, he said.

The continuing rise in class sizes comes after parents and governors protested about the Government's refusal to fund last year's teachers' 2.7 per cent pay award and last November's tight council spending settlements. However, these have yet to influence official figures, which are for January.

The Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, has already said that schools will have to find next year's teacher pay increase from efficiency savings in their budgets.

The rising birthrate has put 80,000 extra pupils in schools from September, requiring 5,000 more teachers to maintain the ratio of 18.3 pupils to one teacher. The Association of County Councils said this would cost £190 million. Estimates of teacher posts lost through redundancy and non-recruitment in the past year vary from 5,000 to 14,000.

Simon Jenkins, page 16  
Letters, page 17

## Customs staff withdrawn from 'low-risk' ports

By NIGEL WILLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

ALMOST all customs cover is being withdrawn from ports and airports where the risk of smuggling is thought to be low, the head of Customs and Excise said yesterday.

Val Strachan told MPs: "Most passengers are honest; they want to pay duty on the goods they have bought abroad." However her officials were "very conscious" that low-risk points of entry could swiftly become higher risk as drug smugglers and other criminals identified places where Customs officials were few.

A total of 292 customs officers had been removed from airports and ports and a further 300 would be removed by 1997-98, Ms Strachan told the Treasury and Civil Service

Committee. She said that, as a result of the cuts, imposed in a Treasury review of customs expenditure, she had decided to concentrate resources at points of entry guaranteed to produce large seizures of drugs and contraband, such as Heathrow and Dover.

She denied that there were any ports or airports that were now customs-free but said: "We have spread cover which is thin in a flexible way."

Malcolm Bruce, the Liberal Democrat MP for Gordon, told Ms Strachan that there was a sign at Aberdeen airport telling travellers: "Please ring this bell and ask for a customs officer."

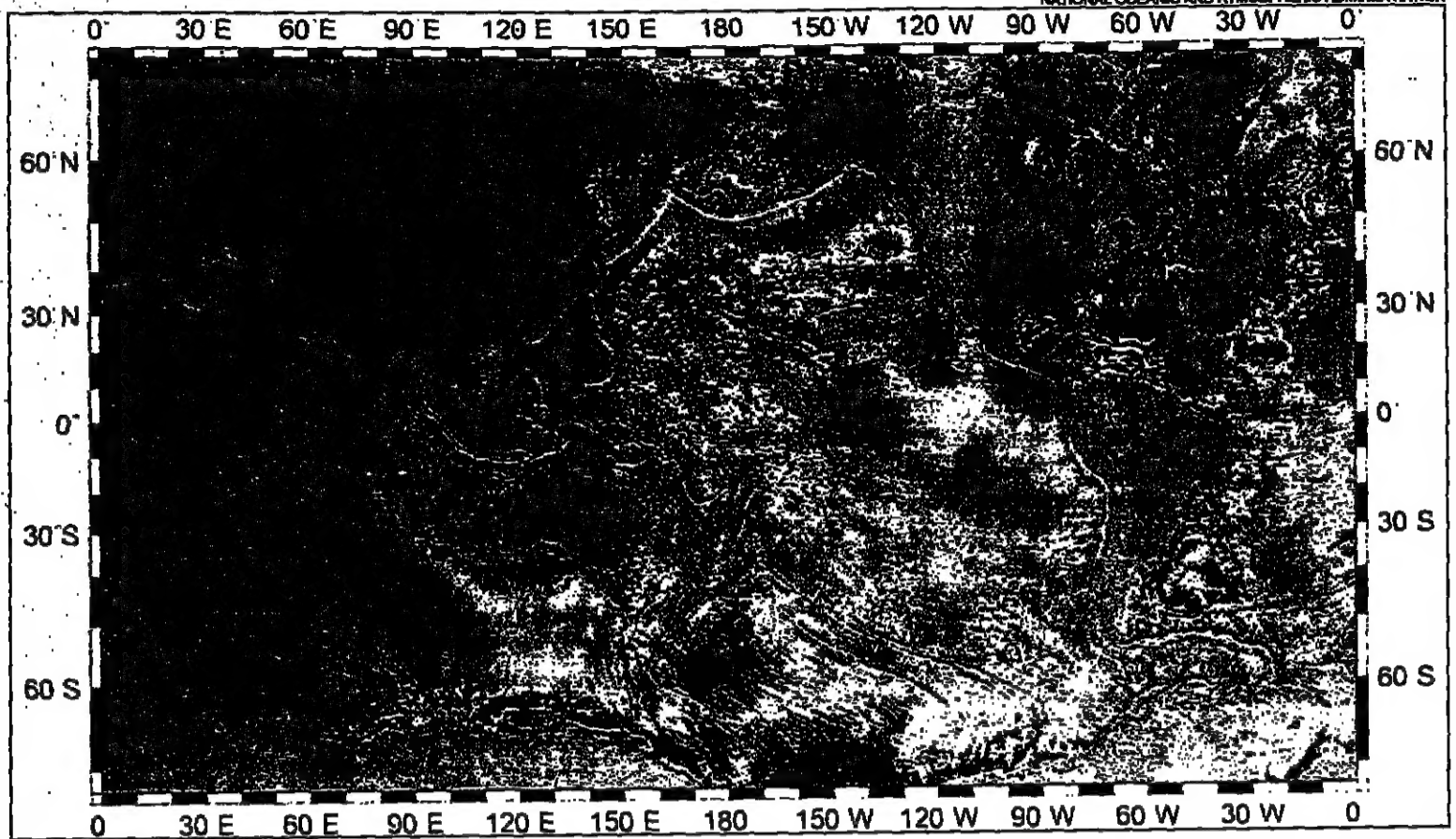
Ms Strachan said that it was a "facility for the honest" — we don't expect the drug

smuggler or the bootlegger to ring the bell and say 'I am quite honest'."

She said that "hit squads" would periodically monitor low-risk ports to see if the risk was still low.

A total of 4,000 job losses in Customs, including 550 anti-smuggling staff, were announced last year, but this is the first time the effect of the cuts has been disclosed, after the Treasury over-ruled the protests of Michael Howard, the Home Secretary.

There are seven airports in Britain receiving scheduled flights from abroad at which there are no full-time immigration staff. They are Belfast, Teesside, Humberside, Biggin Hill, Eastleigh (Southampton), Exeter and Kirkwall.



A detailed map of the ocean floor depicting previously unknown underwater volcanoes and submerged ravines more dramatic than the Grand Canyon has been published by American scientists (Quentin Letts writes).

The map, on which red indicates the shallow areas and blue the deepest, covers all seas on the globe and is said to be 30 times more detailed than previous attempts.

It has been made possible by the release of classified data from the United States Navy, which guarded such

## Sea map reveals ravines that dwarf the Grand Canyon

information for its submarines during the Cold War. Civilian beneficiaries may include weather forecasters, fishermen and mining companies searching for fresh oil fields.

Scientists at America's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration collated the navy's data, which measured sea levels around

the Earth to within an inch. The levels can depend on the shape of the seabed below; a submerged mountain, for instance, causing a bump on the surface of the sea.

These readings were married to gravity readings from a recent European satellite. One scientist who worked on the project said: "It's like being able to drain the

oceans and look at the Earth from space."

Elliot Hurwitz, an official from the administration, said: "Sea topography has not been subjected to the same erosion as things on the Earth's surface, so the mountains are a lot more rugged. Anything bigger than six miles is shown up." Particularly deep ravines

have been found in the Pacific. A gorge off California is "far deeper and wider than the Grand Canyon."

Weather forecasts may benefit from the improved detail because sea ridges and dips affect ocean circulation, and those currents in turn affect on climate.

A large example of the map is on show in Washington DC. The raw data are available on the Internet and user-friendly images will be available soon. A colour print is on sale for \$40 from a geological centre in California (tel: 001 619 534 2752).

## Doctor is jailed for child sex

FROM ANDREW DRUMMOND  
IN BANGKOK

A BRITISH doctor who set up a practice in Cambodia was sentenced to two years in jail yesterday for sexual assault on children.

Dr Gavin Scott, 39, who administered to the resident expatriate community and a local international school, was found guilty of five counts of rape. He had denied the charges. He was also ordered to pay the equivalent of £250 to each of five victims, all boys under 15.

He is the first foreigner to be jailed for taking part in Phnom Penh's flourishing child sex trade. Benito Chuchateau Arminjon, head of Krousar Thmay (New Family), a child support group said: "We hope this will now discourage foreign men from coming to Cambodia to take advantage of its children."

But Scott will have to serve only one month in prison as 18 months of the sentence have been suspended and he has already spent five months in custody.

The court was told during the one-day hearing that the boys involved were being hired out by a pimp.

## Dead stars vie for Christmas No 1

By DALYA ALBERGE  
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE late pop stars John Lennon and Freddie Mercury will be competing for the top of the charts this Christmas. Long after their fans thought they had heard the last of the two stars, Lennon will feature on an album of previously unreleased recordings by The Beatles and Mercury will perform the last recordings he made.

Mercury died from an AIDS-related illness in November 1991. In his last months, knowing that he was dying, he told the other members of Queen that he would record material for them whenever he felt strong enough to visit the studio. "I'll give you as much as I can," he said.

The Queen guitarist Brian May said: "By the time we



Lennon recorded vocals shortly before his death. Mercury's last work is being seen as his epitaph

were doing it we knew we would be on borrowed time because Freddie had been told he would never make it. We just tried to make the best use of him. He would come in for a few hours."

Mercury also wrote some of



the material. One song, A Winter's Tale, was his last. Queen's twentieth album, to be released on November 6, is called Made in Heaven and is being seen as an epitaph to the flamboyant Mercury.

Queen has already held the

Christmas No 1 spot once since his death when *Bohemian Rhapsody* was re-released to raise money for AIDS research. Queen has also joined forces with the British Film Institute in a venture that involves them investing £500,000 in up to ten short films inspired by Queen material.

The Beatles Anthology 1 features Lennon's vocals on the new single *Free as a Bird*, which he recorded shortly before he was shot dead outside his New York apartment in December 1980. George Harrison, Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr reunited to record music to back the vocals, creating the first new Beatles single since the band split in 1970.

EMI Records is releasing both the Beatles and the Queen albums.

33% OFF  
DUTY FREE.

# WE'VE ARRANGED OUR TIMETABLE TO MATCH YOURS.

WITH 40 CAR SHUTTLES A DAY, AND NO NEED TO BOOK YOU  
CAN'T MISS IT. PHONE 0990 35 35 35 OR SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT  
TICKETS CAN BE PRE-PURCHASED OR BOUGHT ON THE DAY.

le Shuttle

EURO TUNNEL



## Berlusconi seeks to topple Dini in desperate attempt to regain power



Dini: fate lies in hands of MPs in the Centre

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS  
IN ROME

SILVIO BERLUSCONI, the Forza Italia leader, yesterday launched a desperate attempt to regain power before his possible conviction for alleged corruption. He did so as Italian MPs debated his motion of no confidence in the Government of Lamberto Dini, the Prime Minister.

Signor Berlusconi's hopes of toppling the technocrat Government were enhanced when the extreme left-wing Rifondazione Comunista party announced that its 24 MPs would support the no-confidence motion when it comes to the vote in

the Chamber of Deputies tomorrow. If the Government falls, President Scalfaro will come under pressure to call a general election, probably in January.

The outcome of the vote is in the hands of a handful of still undecided MPs in small parties of the Centre, and it is not impossible that Signor Dini will survive. But the mood of the country is such that President Scalfaro is widely expected to call an election by March, whatever happens tomorrow.

Signor Berlusconi argues that, since his Freedom Alliance won the last general election in March 1994, the will of the people has been

violated and that new elections should be held. His demands that "Il Rospo" (The Toad), as Signor Dini is known to the press, should go, have become ever more strident since earlier this month when Signor Berlusconi was ordered to stand trial on bribery charges on January 17.

The media tycoon, who resigned as Prime Minister in September, vigorously protests his innocence, but clearly would rather fight an election before undergoing the humiliation of a trial and possible conviction and prison sentence. Signor Berlusconi also believes it necessary to seize the political

initiative to foil plans to create a new coalition grouping of the Centre that could have as its figurehead Antonio Di Pietro, the former magistrate who spearheaded Italy's anti-corruption crackdown. Signor Di Pietro has confirmed that he is preparing to enter politics.

The political crisis began last week, when centre-left parties in the Senate impeached Filippo Mancuso, the Justice Minister, over his alleged attempts to sabotage the work of the anti-corruption magistrates investigating Signor Berlusconi's Fininvest empire. An appeal by Signor Mancuso, a 73-year-old Sicilian former judge, to the Consti-

tutional Court against his dismissal was yesterday adjourned until tomorrow.

Signor Berlusconi contends that Signor Dini's refusal to support Signor Mancuso was part of a political campaign against him and that the Government must go because it is no longer the impartial stop-gap administration that was originally conceived.

Signor Mancuso has called into question Signor Dini's credibility by claiming that the Prime Minister supported his efforts to curb over-zealous magistrates. He also attacked the probity of President Scalfaro, claiming that the head of

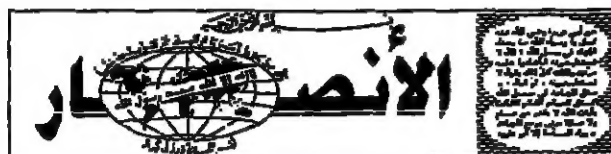
state had put pressure on him to cover up the results of an inquiry into alleged abuse of secret service funds when the President was Interior Minister.

Since he became Prime Minister, Signor Dini, a former central bank director-general, has passed substantial reforms of the state pension system as part of an effort to curtail the budget deficit. However, he has been criticised by the employers' federation for not taking tougher measures to bring down public indebtedness in line with targets set by the Maastricht treaty.

Leading article, page 17

## Algerians use London as base to incite terror

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR



Al-Ansar: a mouthpiece of Algerian radicals in London

PAMPHLETS circulating in London mosques are calling for the shooting of Westerners in Algeria, the kidnapping and murder of government officials, the hijacking of planes and the sabotage of peace talks to end the civil war.

The police and MI5 have stepped up surveillance of Islamic radicals after strong protests from France and Algeria that London has become a haven for terrorists plotting the assassination of intellectuals, politicians and journalists in Algeria.

Tough new measures to stop the spread of the Algerian war into Europe will be a key topic when President Chirac meets John Major in London next week.

The pamphlets in Arabic are outspoken in inciting violence and assassination. "Hold a stone, trigger a bomb, plant a mine, hijack a plane, do not ask how," one begins. "Do something, to prove that on your shoulders there stands a head, not a piece of cheese. The times of kidnapping are not over yet, do something."

For the past two years newspapers have been distributed in mosques and among Britain's Muslim community boasting about the number of Westerners killed and of the ambushes and actions against Algerian military forces.

Al-Ansar, a mouthpiece of radicals, reported in September 1993 that the Algerian Government was suppressing

news of the kidnapping of Westerners in order not to cause panic four months later the paper gloated over the killing of a Russian diplomat in Algeria.

The Algerian Government claims that because Britain's asylum laws do not proscribe political activity as long as it does not break British law, dissident exiles are flocking to London to take advantage of the good communications and large number of Arab newspapers published here.

The Algerians claim that Britain has become a centre for subversion, and diplomats are urging Britain to prosecute anyone plotting terrorism and assassination.

Over the past nine months there has been an influx of radical activists, mainly from Algeria but also from other North African countries, especially Tunisia, Egypt, and the Gulf states. A Muslim funda-

mentalist network offers newcomers contacts, accommodation, money and legal advice. British security officials have long kept an eye on such networks, but the spate of bombings in France and pressure from French anti-terrorist officials have led to unprecedented intelligence co-operation.

Mr Major told Arab ambassadors in London earlier this year that radical dissidents were not welcome in London and were abusing British hospitality. He gave a clear hint that Britain would be reluctant to grant them asylum.

Activists continue to denounce their governments, however, and Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, will come under renewed pressure in when he visits Saudi Arabia next week.

Britain has refused asylum to Muhammad Massari, the head of a Saudi Islamist

opposition group called the Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights. Dr Massari has won the first round in his appeal against his expulsion order, however, and is still active in denouncing corruption and the Saudi Royal Family.

A new complication is the use of foreign broadcasting stations licensed and based in Britain to air messages considered subversive by Muslim governments.

Mr Rifkind was sharply attacked by his Turkish hosts during last month's visit to Ankara over the broadcasts from a Turkish-language station, Med-TV, which Ankara said advocated Kurdish separatism.

Investigations of Med-TV and of some Arabic language publications have now begun to see whether they contravene prohibitions on subversion or incitement to racial hatred.

British law and traditions of tolerance have been pointed out to the Algerians, Saudis, Tunisians and others calling for a clampdown. They insist, however, that although they respect British traditions of asylum, they cannot accept that dissidents should be free to continue subversion from offices in London.

The Home Office has announced a general tightening of asylum regulations, however. Arab governments have been told that this would probably stop many of those considered to be terrorists from settling in Britain.

### French police detain 13

Paris: French police detained 13 people yesterday in raids on suspected Muslim extremists in Paris. The swoop was ordered by Laurence Le Vert, an investigating judge who

on Monday jailed two Frenchmen of North African origin on suspicion of links to a militant Algerian group blamed for a wave of bombings in France. (Reuters)



Jacques Chirac making his nuclear test announcement during an interview with Larry King

## France learns of nuclear tests curb from American television interview

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS AND CHARLES BRENNER IN BRUSSELS

FRANCE will probably carry out four more underground nuclear explosions in the South Pacific, two fewer than planned, President Chirac announced during a Monday night interview on America's CNN television network.

It was the first time a French President had given a live TV interview in English. In France, it was translated with a voice-over.

The move to scale-back the number of tests may assuage some of the international outrage over France's resumption of testing, but it angered opposition MPs who wondered why the President made an announcement on this volatile issue through a foreign medium — and in a foreign language.

Like other international politicians, American presidential candidates and Hollywood celebrities, M Chirac chose Larry King, the veteran

American talk show host, as the conduit for one of his most important pronouncements.

The former Socialist Prime Minister Laurent Fabius was shocked that the President, in New York for the United Nations 50th anniversary celebrations, had told the American public of his nuclear plans before his own country. "We are the French parliament. The fact that we have never been able to have a debate on this matter and that one must learn about it through an American television network, that is a fairly shocking thing," M Fabius said.

Last June M Chirac said up to eight underground tests would be necessary to ensure the safety and effectiveness of France's nuclear arsenal before adopting computer-simulated tests. But he told Larry King "probably four more" would be sufficient, adding testing would be completed by next spring.

Two nuclear tests have taken place at the Mururoa and Fangataua atolls, sparking widespread condemnation in the South Pacific.

In Brussels, the European Commission yesterday backed down from confrontation with

France over the tests, ruling there were no grounds for action under the Union's atomic energy treaty.

In the face of the anger of Socialist and Green members, Jacques Santer, Commission President, told the European Parliament that after inspections and analysis of French data, the Brussels body had decided the tests presented no threat to health and safety.

Mr Santer emphasised the unanimity of Monday's decision. Though expected, it was greeted with relief in Paris and allied capitals.

Numerous world leaders have denounced the tests in public, but M Chirac told Larry King that few had offered criticism in private.

Some, including John Major and the German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, had voiced support. President Clinton had not raised the issue, he said.

### Chirac court ruling delay

Paris: The Paris prosecutor will postpone a decision on whether to prosecute President Chirac over a rented flat by pending an administrative court ruling, sources said yesterday. The court is due to rule next month on a lawyer's request to sue M Chirac over the purchase of his flat by a firm partly owned by Paris when he was Mayor. (Reuters)

## How conwoman, 75, keeps one jump ahead of the law

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

HENRIETTE RAES has a taste for the good things in life, but a strong aversion to paying for them.

For more than 50 years this plump, white-haired Frenchwoman, with horn-rimmed spectacles, has dined at France's finest restaurants and stayed in the best hotels, without paying a centime.

The 75-year-old conwoman has been convicted no fewer than 32 times, usually in absentia, for non-payment of bills or passing off stolen cheques. French newspapers reported this week. The list of charges is now eight pages long and she is still on the run, albeit slowly.

Last week Mme Raes was sentenced to three years' imprisonment by a court in Brittany, but once again she was not there to hear the sentence passed. "There is no point in hoping... she is not going to mend her ways at her age," the prosecutor remarked wearily.

In May 1992, Mme Raes ran up a bill of 80,000 francs (£10,000) in one week at the

Hôtel de Bretagne in Douarnenez and then politely vanished. She was arrested in September, only to evade custody once again.

In France they are called *les hirondelles*, the swallows — little old ladies who alight at the most expensive establishments, run up massive bills and then take flight.

Mme Raes, known variously to police as "the white wolf" and "the devilish granny", began her bizarre and extravagant lifestyle at 20, shortly after the Second World War. "She inspired confidence in the most suspicious of hoteliers," according to police, ordering the chef's choicest items, the best wine and the largest room.

"She wanted to travel, so she travelled. Usually by train, sometimes by taxi," Le Figaro reported. Sometimes she paid with stolen cheques; more usually she "forgot".

When not living in a grand hotel, Mme Raes was usually to be found in prison, but she seldom stayed there for long because of her advancing age

and claims of ill-health. "Her illness was imaginary. She said that to get people on her side. She was only ill from eating too much," one warder said.

"As far as we were concerned she was above suspicion," the owner of the Hôtel de Bretagne recalled. "One morning, in front of me, she arranged a hairdressing appointment and asked me to get her a taxi. We never saw her again. The taxi drove her to the station and she paid for her ticket with a stolen cheque."

Mme Raes was last seen on January 2, when she bundled up her knitting and skipped out of a "secure" hospital near Paris. Her whereabouts are now unknown, although one rumour has it that she may have headed to Cornwall which has, of course, some remarkably fine beaches.

As Le Parisien reported, the queen of the swallows "left no forwarding address" for Henriette is still going strong, from town to town, from hotel to hotel.

## Tapie says he lied under oath

PARIS: Bernard Tapie, the bankrupt former boss of Marseilles football club and former Cabinet minister, launched his appeal yesterday against a prison sentence for rigging a football match by admitting that he had lied under oath. (Ben Macintyre writes)

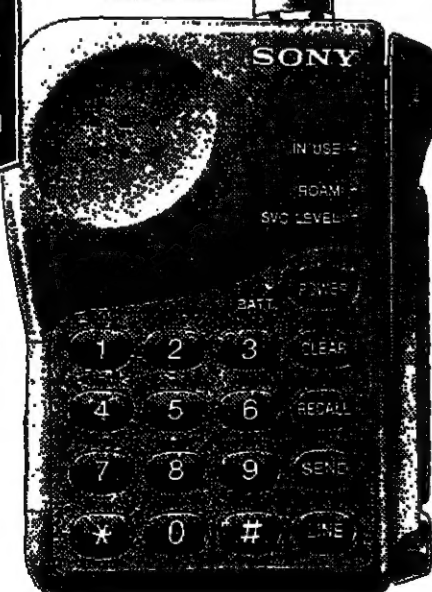
In March, M Tapie was sentenced to a year in prison and another year's suspended sentence after he was found guilty of bribing Valenciennes players to lose a league game against his club — allegedly because M Tapie did not want to fire out his team before the European Cup final, which Marseilles won six days later.

At his trial M Tapie repeatedly claimed that he had not met Boro Primorac, the trainer of the Valenciennes team, in June 1993. However, with typical bravura, M Tapie changed tack at an appeal hearing and admitted the meeting had taken place, but he still denied offering M Primorac cash and a new job in exchange for changing his testimony during the match-rigging trial.

## SMALLEST PHONE. BIGGEST VALUE EVER.

**FREE SONY**  
ACCESSORIES WORTH  
**£139**

ACTUAL SIZE



**LIMITED OFFER**  
**£19.99**  
INC. VAT  
**FREE CONNECTION TO**  
**VODAFONE**  
**LOWCALL**

Trust the number one name in telephone shopping to bring you the biggest ever deal on this award winning, miniature wonder from Sony. Power-packed performance in a featherweight pocket-sized package.

With FREE connection to the Vodafone LowCall Tariff plus over £139 (RRP) worth of genuine Sony accessories.

Simply phone us with your credit card details and we'll deliver your phone, plus valuable extras, within 4 working days. Direct to your door.

The most comprehensive after sales package available includes:  
1 Year Parts & Labour Guarantee  
24 Hour Customer Care Line  
Same Day Repair from Sony  
"Walk & Talk" service  
Collect & Repair service  
30 Days Repair Quality Guarantee

**FREE** CONNECTION TO  
**VODAFONE LOWCALL**  
Monthly Rental  
**£15 (£12.77 + VAT)**  
Peak Rate Calls  
**50p per min (42.5p + VAT)**  
Off Peak Calls  
**28p per min (17p + VAT)**

**14 DAY PEACE OF MIND**  
24 hour emergency help. Repairs free. No call charges.

**SONY**

MODEL CM-R111K.  
◆ 9 speed dial memories  
◆ 60 mins talk-time  
◆ 14 hrs standby-time  
◆ Featherweight only 185g (6½ oz)  
◆ Complete with rapid charger and standard battery

**Cellphones**

THE NAME TO TRUST IN TELEPHONE SHOPPING

**FREEPHONE 0500 000 888**

CREDIT CARD ORDERING HOTLINE WEEKDAYS 9AM TO 9PM WEEKENDS 9AM TO 6PM

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CREDIT CARD AND THIS ADVERTISEMENT READY WHEN YOU CALL. AND QUOTE REF 1873 (SOME ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT SWITCH CARS)

Offer subject to status and a standard Airtime contract for each phone with Cellphones Direct Ltd

185 Lower Richmond Road, Richmond-upon-Thames TW9 4UN. Written terms and conditions available on request. © Copyright. Registered No. 295222.

## Troops guard buses

Strasbourg: Troops rode as armed guards on buses and trains yesterday after several nights of stone-throwing and petrol bomb attacks by youths.

About 60 soldiers from the First Infantry Regiment were used in sensitive areas, mainly inhabited by North African immigrants, after stones were thrown on Monday night at buses in the city. Officials said that several private cars were also set on fire and one road was blocked by barricades.

The General Police Union denounced the latest move. "Police may need reinforcements... [but] we vigorously oppose the use of the army for tasks of public security without any link to terrorism," it said.

The transport soldiers are in addition to 40 troops sent to Strasbourg as part of a nationwide security crackdown after a wave of bombings in France that have been blamed on Algerian Muslim extremists. (Reuters)

**VOLVO OWNERS** **COMPREHENSIVE INSURANCE FROM £100**

Extra Safety = Lower Insurance

Exclusive Schemes for Volvos

Tel: 01403 260822 NOW!

or Phone your Nearest Branch at the Local Rate on

**0345 123111**

**Hill House Hammond**  
Over 250 Branches Nationwide



power

not pressure on him  
the results of an in-  
depth investigation  
into the President's  
conduct.  
The White House  
has a long history of  
control over the  
media. The President  
has often been seen  
in the White House  
library, a place where  
he can control the  
flow of information  
to the public. He  
has also been known  
to take long walks  
in the White House  
grounds, a place where  
he can think and  
work without  
interruption.

Leading article, page

sts curb  
interview

Lapie says  
he lied  
under oath

£100

## THE ROVER 620ti KEEPS 37 LAND SPEED RECORDS UNDER ITS BONNET. (BUT KEEP IT UNDER YOUR HAT.)

"A rather reserved rocket," was how Dr Jekyll described the Rover 620ti in a Top Gear road test.

Two paragraphs later, he encountered the turbo-charged T16 engine that scooped up a hatful of records during a special 24 hour marathon test.

At which point a certain Mr Hyde took over.

"This Rover is a beast. Honestly."

Tut tut Mr Hyde. "It's a sleek but discrete saloon for those who want to hurry but don't need to shout."

Oh really Doc? "It's got traction control and stonking great 16 inch alloys with Pirelli P-Zero tyres..."

To the joy, no doubt, of psychologists everywhere, the same revealing contradictions appear whenever the 620ti is reviewed.

It possesses an unerring ability to separate the man from the boy.

(For the man, we also include our security coded RDS radio/cassette, vehicle immobiliser and perimetric security system.

Two years' free servicing and warranty\*  
For a free test drive or a brochure  
phone now on  
**0345 186 186**

For the boy, take a glance at our Silverstone sports leather seats.)

As final proof, we'll conclude with two more road testers' gems from the 620ti's press-cuttings file.

"Subtlety is such an underrated virtue." The good Doctor again.

"It's a scorcher." Guess who?



ABOVE ALL, IT'S A ROVER



# Activist Wu claims World Bank pays for Chinese 'gulag'

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

HARRY WU, the Chinese-American human rights activist, has accused the World Bank of helping Peking to maintain its "gulag" of forced labour camps by extending loans to an irrigation project in a remote region.

The charge caused alarm at the World Bank's headquarters in Washington yesterday. A spokesman said that if Mr Wu's accusations established beyond doubt that forced labour was being used in a project funded by the World Bank, it would almost certainly lead to its money being cut from the Chinese Government.

If the controversy does go that far, Mr Wu will have pulled off a coup of profound implications for Peking. As it was, he timed his charges to cause maximum embarrassment by making them shortly before President Clinton was due to hold a conciliatory summit in New York with President Jiang Zemin of China.

Mr Wu, 58, an American citizen, is the former political prisoner whose relentless investigation of prison camps led to his arrest for spying and

expulsion from China two months ago. He urged the World Bank to appoint an independent commission to investigate his charges and to adopt an official policy that bars the use of forced labour on all bank projects.

Under its programme of low-interest loans to developing countries, the World Bank has provided \$90 million (£38



Wu made his charge before Jiang's talks

million) in credits for the Tarim Basin project to improve food and livestock production in Xinjiang province along China's western border with Kazakhstan. Political dissidents and others whose activities are not welcomed by Peking have long been banished to this inhospitable land, known as China's Siberia.

Mr Wu said he visited the area last year and filmed labour camp workers planting cotton. He said there are at least seven *laogai*, or reform-through-labour prison camps, run by the Justice Ministry in the area and at least 14 smaller camps run by the People's Liberation Army. He put the prison population at between 25,000 and 60,000.

In addition, 150,000 of the area's 600,000 residents work for the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps, a quasi-military organisation run largely by former prisoners and their descendants who remain permanently banished to internal exile, Mr Wu said.

He told a Washington news conference that although a World Bank report on Tarim Basin does not mention prison camps or military farms in the text, an accompanying map of the project does include a forced labour camp called Pailou Farm. "Maybe the Chinese were cheating the World Bank," he said, "or maybe the World Bank never knew it. Whatever, we have to tell about this."

Graham Barrett, the World Bank spokesman, said it had a policy of not dealing with forced labour projects or with military organisations in any country. "We absolutely oppose and abhor the use of forced labour and would not want any of our projects to be involved in any way."

He insisted that the bank had no knowledge of any link between forced labour and the Tarim Basin project, which was intended to alleviate poverty in areas with a predominantly minority population of Muslims. Mr Barrett said Mr Wu's claims were being investigated and added that Mr Wu had not responded to an invitation to visit the bank's headquarters and offer any proof.

Much could be at stake for China, which receives more money from the World Bank than any other country. Since the early 1980s, the bank and its International Development Association have provided credits to China for 159 projects amounting to \$23 billion.

The Chinese Embassy in Washington said last night that Mr Wu's charges were "unworthy of comment".



Lift-off disaster struck just 45 seconds later

## Private rocket goes with a bang

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

A PRIVATE, unmanned rocket carrying scientific experiments into space exploded 45 seconds after lift-off from a new NASA launch site on the coast of Virginia. Debris fell into the Atlantic 12 miles offshore; no one was injured.

The five-storey Conestoga rocket was blown up by NASA controllers when it began veering off course at 25,000 feet, officials said yesterday.

Nasa and EER Systems, the private firm that built the rocket, could not immediately determine what caused the 100-tonne Conestoga to change its angle of ascent. Coast Guard boats carried out searches for debris that might indicate what went wrong.

David Sütz, a Nasa spokesman who saw the explosion, said: "It was a beautiful lift-off. It looked great and



Strap-on boosters corkscrew out of control as the Conestoga rocket is blown up

then there was this major malfunction." He said three of the rocket's four strap-on booster engines came adrift from the rocket shortly before it was blown up. The Conestoga was the first commercially built rocket to be launched

from the Nasa site and its failure was a setback for America's fledgling commercial space industry's collaboration with Nasa. EER Systems has spent \$100 million (£65 million) on developing the rocket, which was

intended to put a small spacecraft called Mensor-1 into orbit for two years. It was to carry 14 experiments, including the growth of crystals in zero gravity and a study of how weightlessness affects plant life.

## Equine virus clue to farmer's death

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

TESTS yesterday confirmed that a horse that died on an Australian stud was infected by a new, deadly strain of equine virus, believed to have killed a Queensland man at the weekend.

The equine morbillivirus, which killed Vic Rail, a Brisbane race horse trainer last year, was also traced in the blood of the latest victim, Mark Preston, a farmer in Mackay. However, Mackay is several hundred miles from Rail's Hendra stables in Brisbane and the infected horse had never been there, adding to the mystery over the source of the virus.

Acute equine respiratory syndrome, as the virus is also known, sent shudders through

the Australian racing industry last year, when 14 horses had to be put down. The implementation of quarantine prevented the virus spreading at the time, but the latest case has kindled fears of another outbreak.

What particularly concerns the racing and veterinary community is that more than a year after the virus occurred, no one knows where it came from or how it is transmitted, although doctors believe that contact with equine fluids plays an important role in its transmission to humans. Although scientists have determined the genetic make-up of the virus, they are still trying to establish the unusual set of circumstances required for it

to jump from its host animal to a horse.

Health authorities have also been at pains to play down the risk to the community as a whole. Peter Beattie, Queensland's Minister for Health, emphasised that there were no recorded cases of human-to-human transmission of the disease.

Peter Reid, a Brisbane vet who worked at Rail's stables last year, said the latest developments were of concern because they had undermined existing theories about the virus. "The source of the virus still remains to be determined and that's the worrying thing."

The fatal condition is believed to be the first human

disease caused by morbillivirus since measles was discovered in the 11th century.

The fact that it has reappeared just over a year after the medical and scientific community thought it had eradicated the condition will not dispel the fears of the Australian racing industry, which has its important meeting, the Melbourne Cup, in a fortnight. Racing officials in Victoria, 1,500 miles away, are monitoring the situation.

Last night the Mackay stud farm where Preston lived was under quarantine and a national search of stock that passed through it was under way. Blood samples were being taken from 80 horses on the farm.

## US tackles forgery of \$100 notes

Nicosia: US Secret Service agents will be based permanently in Cyprus from January to counter Islamic militants forging near-perfect \$100 banknotes. (Michael Theodorou writes)

The "supernotes", worth about £63, are produced in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley by Shia Muslim fundamentalists supervised by Iranian intelligence and protected by Syria, according to American and Arab officials.

The establishment of a Secret Service office should help to determine whether the counterfeiters are inspired by greed or are using the money to fund Islamic terrorist groups. There has also been speculation that the fakes may be used to buy nuclear materials in the former Soviet Union.

## Mauritania ousts Iraqi diplomat

The tiny, northwest African state of Mauritania has declared the Iraqi ambassador persona non grata and ordered him to leave by tomorrow after allegations that secret groups linked to President Saddam Hussein's regime were planning a coup. (Christopher Walker writes)

Western intelligence sources, surprised that the hard-pressed Iraqi dictatorship had spread its tentacles so wide, noted that the mainly Muslim country has a history of links with Iraq and backed it during the Gulf War. It has since renewed ties with Kuwait.

## Smugglers admit Algeria arms plot

Rabat: Sixteen arms smugglers captured in Morocco last week have admitted supplying weapons to Algeria's banned Islamic Salvation Front, according to a lawyer representing them. (Mark Hubbard writes). They will appear before a military tribunal on Monday.

Algeria's armed Islamic opposition has vowed to step up its campaign against President Zeroual's Government before the November 16 presidential election.

## Hunter survives grizzly ambush

Los Angeles: A Canadian was in hospital with 19 deep wounds after being ambushed by a 300lb grizzly bear (Giles Whitell writes). Bob Nicols, 49, survived by stabbing it in the eye and jugular vein. He was hunting moose 500 miles north of his Vancouver home when he strayed between the female and four cubs.

New U  
dema  
waste

Riddle of  
who in h  
family a

UNITED STATES  
A 300lb grizzly bear  
ambushed a Canadian  
hunter in the mountains  
of British Columbia  
last week. The hunter  
survived by stabbing  
the bear in the eye and  
jugular vein. The bear  
was hunting moose  
500 miles north of  
his Vancouver home  
when he strayed  
between the female  
and four cubs.

THE MOUNTAIN  
A 300lb grizzly bear  
ambushed a Canadian  
hunter in the mountains  
of British Columbia  
last week. The hunter  
survived by stabbing  
the bear in the eye and  
jugular vein. The bear  
was hunting moose  
500 miles north of  
his Vancouver home  
when he strayed  
between the female  
and four cubs.

Russia unve  
switch from

THE TIMES  
A 300lb grizzly bear  
ambushed a Canadian  
hunter in the mountains  
of British Columbia  
last week. The hunter  
survived by stabbing  
the bear in the eye and  
jugular vein. The bear  
was hunting moose  
500 miles north of  
his Vancouver home  
when he strayed  
between the female  
and four cubs.

DON'T MISS OUT  
ON A TAX-FREE  
WAY TO PEP UP  
YOUR SAVINGS.

PHONE  
0800 100 888

Over 26,000 investors have opened our Growth PEP since its launch in March. If you'd like to find out why, simply call us free at a time convenient to you. We're open Monday to Friday 8am to 9pm or Saturday 8am to 4pm, just quote reference A363E. You'll find there's no hard sell, just clear, straightforward financial advice.



For your security and to assist us in improving our service to you we may record or monitor all calls to Abbey National Direct. Unit trust products are provided by Abbey National Unit Trust Managers Limited. The value of investments and any income from them may fall as well as rise, is not guaranteed and, therefore, you may not get back the full amount you invest. PEPS are subject to Index Review rules and regulations which may change from time to time. Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6AL, United Kingdom. ABBEY NATIONAL PLC, WHICH IS REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY, ONLY SELLS ITS OWN LIFE ASSURANCE, PENSION AND UNIT TRUST PRODUCTS.

## Revised history angers whites

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

A NEW government publication that describes South Africa's early days as slave traders, cattle thieves, land grabbers, warmongers and suppressors of black people was condemned yesterday by the former ruling National Party, which is led by F. W. de Klerk, the Second Deputy President.

The revisionist account of South Africa's early days is in the 1995 edition of the *Official Government Yearbook*, a reference work intended for use by libraries, schools and businesses. The history section, written by Professor Rodney Davenport, a white South African who is emeritus professor of history at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, also says that black people were already settled in present-day South Africa when Boer farmers came across them "in land they thought was empty".

His summary challenges the history taught to generations of white children during the apartheid era. Piet Marais, the National Party's education spokesman, said: "It is wrong and it is biased and we cannot go along with it. We agree that in the past there was too much emphasis on what whites did, but to say this is ridiculous."

The interpretation of history has always been a sensitive issue in South Africa, where successive white minority regimes and their opponents offered differing accounts to justify their claims to power and their actions.



Menem: covets role as world statesman

## Argentine joy over Menem trip

BY GABRIELLA GANINI SOUTH AMERICA CORRESPONDENT

THE news that President Menem of Argentina might soon visit Britain was greeted enthusiastically at the government house in Buenos Aires. "The President's dream has finally come true," said one government official.

Señor Menem has been asking for an invitation to Britain, since he renewed diplomatic relations with Britain in 1990. No invitation has been given since the Falklands conflict 13 years ago.

Newspaper headlines in Buenos Aires hailed the potential visit as a political and diplomatic victory. "After agreement over joint fishing and oil exploration in the South Atlantic, this is the icing on the cake," said the daily *Clarín*. Señor Menem is keen to project himself as a leading statesman. He has sent peace-keeping troops to former Yugoslavia, signed a nuclear proliferation treaty and taken a mediating role in South American border conflicts.



## Save up to 50% on short breaks at Johansens hotels

The Times offers you savings of up to 50 per cent on short breaks at a selection of Johansens hotels, inns and country houses, including the charming Monk Fyston Hall, North Yorkshire (above).

The savings are on the normal bed and breakfast rates based on two people sharing a twin or double room for two consecutive nights, and are valid until May 31, 1996. Some discounts also apply to individuals in a single room and to one-night stays.

Readers can also buy the following Johansens guides at savings of up to £3.95, including p&p, on each guide, or buy all four guides for £35.80, by calling our credit card hotline 01525 851945 quoting code 'T502: Recommended Country Houses and Small Hotels in Great Britain and Ireland; Recommended Inns with Restaurants in Great Britain; and Recommended Hotels in Europe, all £9.95, and Recommended Hotels in Great Britain and Ireland, £17.95.

THE TIMES  
JOHANSENS  
HOTEL  
OFFER  
TOKEN 3

Valid in Britain and Ireland until May 31, 1996

Collect four tokens from the 20 which will be printed in both The Times and The Sunday Times and choose where you would like to stay from a choice of 340 participating establishments listed in our free 24-page guide which appeared yesterday.

Having selected where you would like to stay, call the hotel(s) of your choice direct to check availability, prices and discounts and to make your reservation(s) in advance, quoting The Times offer. On arrival at your hotel present the four tokens with one of the vouchers which appeared in yesterday's guide or The Sunday Times.

You can enjoy a total of five breaks by collecting all 20 tokens and the five vouchers.

JOHANSENS

COLLECT TWO EXTRA TOKENS IN THE SUNDAY TIMES NEXT WEEKEND



## New UN watchdog demands end to waste and fraud

By James BONE and Martin FLETCHER in New York

A DAY after John Major called for sweeping reforms of the United Nations, the organisation's new inspector-general yesterday issued an unprecedented report cataloguing widespread waste and fraud.

Karl Paschke, a German official appointed last year to a new post of under-secretary-general for internal oversight services, pointed up financial abuses, inefficiency and even crime.

"I believe that some of the deficiencies and weaknesses which are increasingly critical public 'nowadays' seem to be in the UN have something to do with the traditionally weak oversight function," he said.

The bureaucracy has grown without priming for many years; procedures and structures have become too rigid, frustrating creativity and individual initiative; overlapping and duplication of responsibilities have not been

adequately addressed, let alone eliminated."

In his speech to the General Assembly on Monday, Mr Major called the organisation "the world's highest paper mountain" and warned that it must adapt to survive.

Mr Paschke's office, set up at the urging of the US to ensure greater oversight of the bureaucracy, concentrated its investigations on peacekeeping, humanitarian operations and procurement.

The inspector-general complained of a long series of abuses in peacekeeping missions, such as the "unauthorised use of aircraft for non-official purposes", "excessive compensatory time off" and "overpayment of mission subsistence allowance".

In Bosnia, UN peacekeepers bought snow scooters they never used; uniforms for civilian personnel that were not needed and 1,400 too many generators, many of which were left in their crates.

In Somalia, UN "blue helmets" paid \$369,000 (\$235,000) to a contractor for services not rendered and overpaid for drinking water to the tune of \$1 million. A review of invoices for road transportation found \$40,000 worth of fraudulent bills.

Mr Paschke uncovered one case where the contractor for an irrigation project put \$110,000 in UN funds in the private bank account of an official of the UN Relief and Works Agency in Palestine — who has since been dismissed.

In one case, UN investigators actually secured a conviction in the New York courts of a travel assistant in the UN special commission set up to disarm Iraq who misappropriated \$28,000.

The inspector-general also found one case where a UN employee had been improperly re-hired.

He said the UN personnel system was "cumbersome", rules were "too complicated", and there was a "widespread tendency of staff, even in key positions, to shun responsibility and accountability".

He did tell one success story, however. When he took up his job, he learned that the UN routinely teleaxed all Security Council decisions to all UN members around the world, at a cost of \$100,000 a year. He instructed officials to send them to the government's New York representatives instead.

Mr Paschke's report gives fuel to those who want to see a thorough reform of the United Nations on its 50th birthday.

Last night, President Clinton began his summit with China's President Jiang facing criticism for capitalising to Chinese demands for a change of venue.

The meeting was to have been held in the walnut-panelled Trustees Room of the New York Public Library, but during a reception for UN dignitaries on Sunday night, a Chinese official spotted a pro-democracy handbill from the 1989 Tiananmen Square demonstrations, in an exhibition called "What Price Freedom?"

The Chinese demanded a change of venue. The White House conceded. Mr Clinton and Mr Jiang were instead meeting in a penthouse at the Lincoln Centre for the Performing Arts, though just ten days ago the Centre had screened a documentary about the Tiananmen Square massacre called "The Gate of Heavenly Peace".



Jiang Zemin: demand for change of venue

## Riddle of who's who in historic family album

UNITED NATIONS officials were yesterday still peering at the group photograph of world leaders taken on Sunday. Although equipped with a battery of world statesmen, they admitted that they simply did not recognise some faces.

Ahmed Fawzi, a UN spokesman, said that the "curious photographs" had moved some of his subjects from their prescribed positions. The 190-strong group included heads of state, heads of government and foreign ministers. Only two-thirds have been identified, said another UN official, Francois Giffard, struggling "Eens impossible". No body from Britain bothered to show up for the pose heralded by the UN as historic. It certainly will be by the time they sort out the caption, and by then some of the leaders will probably have lost office.

ONE mould-breaking encounter was the appearance of a Russian leader's wife at a Manhattan cosmetics counter. Until the 1980s, Politburo spouses tended to be muscular, whiskery be-bushkas with a trenchant disregard for material beautification. But there was Boris Yeltsin's wife, Naina, at Estee Lauder. A cosmeticist swooped.

"Hello, how are you today?" she asked. Mrs Yeltsin grunted. "Any concerns about your skin?" continued the sales assistant. Mrs Yeltsin replied that her skin was normal, thank you. Then the Lauder woman posed a question which in former decades might have ensured her a spell in Siberia. "How often," she asked the chateleine of the Krem-

"MINE'S bigger than yours" claims were made by John Major and Jacques Chirac, who both boasted that their country supplies the largest number of troops to the UN. The truth? Britain is No 1, though France has been in the recent past.

IN his speech, President Museveni of Uganda referred to African civil wars, claiming that these things were done less bloodily before the white man arrived. In the old-fashioned tribal wars, he said, women were never killed — they were simply whisked off and forced to marry the victors. Cue for a certain shifting of feet from the numerous feminists in the hall.

QUENTIN LETTS

## Russia unveils 'secret cities' in switch from swords to sofas

FROM RICHARD BREESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S top secret military installations yesterday attempted to prove that after decades of producing the biggest nuclear arsenal on the planet, they are finally ready to beat their swords into ploughshares.

In an extraordinary trade exhibition in Moscow, the so-called "secret cities", responsible for testing, building and assembling the Soviet Union's deadly atomic warheads, put on display civilian products that they hope will one day be their economic salvation.

"I am sure that Stalin would turn in his grave, if he could see his secret cities on display in public like this," said one exhibitor from Arzamas-16, the first of the ten secret cities built by the dictator at the start of the nuclear arms race. "Although conversion to civilian products is proving difficult, we have no choice if we want to survive."

A promotional video, showing clean streets and points of historical interest in the old town centre, failed to explain that the city of nearly 100,000 people still does not appear on most Russian maps and that

distributing any information about Arzamas-16 would until a few years ago have been a treasonable offence.

Nevertheless, like other secret cities across Russia, the town, 300 miles east of Moscow, has been forced to diversify because of government spending cuts to the arms industry and the collapse in the standard of living for the country's once-pampered scientific elite.

Although the city is still guarded by soldiers and ringed by barbed wire fencing and watch-towers, Arzamas-16 is now more interested in finding investors for its less deadly new products, including sofa-beds, car trailers and kidney dialysis machines.

The competition among the secret cities is stiff. Not to be outdone, a stand near by representing the Siberian town of Zlatoust-36, better known for its work in assembling and dismantling nuclear warheads, boasted an imaginative selection of products from cast-iron figurines to what looked like Russia's first locally-made jet-ski.

Yevgeni Dryakhlov, the ad-

ministrative head of Sverdlovsk-45, another top secret nuclear installation in the Ural, said that the trade fair proved that the 700,000 people living in the ten top secret establishments could turn their hands to other work. "We should have had this exhibition a long time ago," he said. "We have an extraordinary pool of talented scientists. We should be able to compete with the best in the world."

The process is proving harder than expected, not least because potential investors from abroad are still barred from visiting the cities. At yesterday's show the number of genuine foreign businessmen appeared to be outweighed by journalists, and equally curious Western military attaches.

Nevertheless, the authorities have a vested interest in promoting civilian conversion projects. Some of the secret cities have over the past year been penetrated by the powerful Russian mafia. Much of the stolen nuclear material being sold on the black market came from these high-security facilities.



Lady Thatcher at her Washington birthday party with Sir Denis, Mila Mulrone, left, and Nancy Reagan

## Thatcher stars at US celebrity party

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

NEWT Gingrich was late and Phil Gramm stayed for less than an hour but, for the briefest of moments, a nostalgic glow settled on Union Station and the special relationship returned. Baroness Thatcher, forceful as ever in a shimmering black suit, sat among her guests while Ronald Reagan, flashing that famous smile, toasted the birthday girl from his California home.

Diners in the main hall of the Washington railway terminus erupted in

applause as Nancy Reagan, pointing to the two large video screens showing pictures of her husband who is suffering from Alzheimer's Disease, said that the former President would like to join her in sending his best wishes.

For the more than 600 people who had paid \$1,000 (£636) a plate to celebrate Lady Thatcher's 70 years, the party was an opportunity to relive the years when Britain and the United States had stood as one against the terrors of Moscow.

The guests included Charlton Heston, who had flown in from Los Angeles and Joan Rivers, the comedienne, who gave

the former Prime Minister a wok, and television stars Barbara Walters and Diane Sawyer. Susan Lucci, the ubiquitous American soap star, leant a youthful air of glamour to an otherwise elderly atmosphere of faded glory. Captain Scott O'Grady, the fighter pilot rescued from Bosnia earlier this year, made a solemn presentation of the American flag.

Even the handful of American Irish protesters, who held up plaques to Bobby Sands, the hunger-striker, and others while chanting "Maggie Go Home", brought memories of a time when thousands might have joined them.

## Germany to deploy troops in Balkans

By Michael Kallenbach in Bonn and Our Foreign Staff

GERMANY yesterday moved a step closer to ending its postwar military isolation when the Cabinet approved sending 4,000 Bundeswehr soldiers to help to bolster a Bosnian peace settlement.

The move is likely to be welcomed by Germany's Nato partners as a clear signal that Bonn is willing to shoulder its responsibilities within the organisation. It could, however, upset many Germans who are anxious not to be reminded of the country's Nazi past. During the Second World War, Germany openly supported the Croatian Fascists.

Opposition members in the Bundestag are unlikely to create too many difficulties when the Cabinet's decision comes up for approval. Last summer the Bundestag approved the stationing of Luftwaffe Tornado fighter-bombers in Piacenza, northern Italy. This was Germany's first military foray outside a Nato area since the war.

The new deployment marks Germany's biggest effort in trying to settle the Bosnian conflict. While troops will be able to operate in Bosnia, most will be based in Croatia. But their mandate will be limited because it forbids them to become involved in any military confrontation.

President Clinton yesterday criticised American politicians seeking to bar President Milosevic, the Serbian leader, from the peace talks in Ohio. Meeting the presidents of Croatia and Bosnia, Mr Clinton said: "I don't think anyone in the United States should do anything to undermine the prospect of bringing this horrible war to a close."

## NO WONDER WE SELL A HOUSE EVERY 6 MINUTES\*

General Accident Property Services <b>350 BRANCHES COUNTRY-WIDE</b>	<b>YES</b>	General Accident Property Services <b>EXCELLENT REPUTATION</b>	<b>YES</b>	General Accident Property Services <b>CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE</b>	<b>YES</b>
General Accident Property Services <b>PERSONAL SERVICE</b>	<b>YES</b>	General Accident Property Services <b>DETAILED LOCAL KNOWLEDGE</b>	<b>YES</b>	General Accident Property Services <b>PROFESSIONAL STAFF</b>	<b>YES</b>
General Accident Property Services <b>6 MONTHS MORTGAGE PROTECTION PREMIUMS*</b>	<b>FREE</b>	General Accident Property Services <b>1 YEAR'S HOME ASSIST PREMIUMS**</b>	<b>FREE</b>		

When you're ready to make a move, it's good to know that there's an Estate Agent you can really put your trust in - General Accident Property Services. Backed by General Accident, one of the country's largest and most respected insurance companies, we're helping people to buy and sell all types of properties every day. And it's reassuring to learn that of all the people we've helped in the past, over 95% of people who've sold with us would use us again, or happily recommend us to a friend.

We look after you even after you've moved home! Right now we're offering 6 Months FREE Premiums on

General Accident Mortgage Protection Policy\* and 12 Months FREE 'Green Flag' Home Assist Premiums\*\* to qualifying customers who buy or sell their property through us - subject to eligibility.

Which means, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, your mortgage is protected against accident, sickness or unemployment for up to 12 months, and you're protected against household upsets like burst pipes.

With such great service it's no wonder that we sell so many houses. Why not call for a free valuation, and let us sell yours!



**General Accident Property Services**

**DOING MORE TO GET YOU MOVING**

\* Subject to eligibility requirements, 6 months premiums are provided free when you take out a Mortgage Protection Policy through General Accident, subject to the full terms and conditions of the policy. Written details on request. \*\* To claim 6 Months Free Mortgage Protection Premiums and 1 Year's Free Home Assist Premiums you must have registered your buying requirements with General Accident Property Services prior to 31.1.96 or instructed us to sell your property between 16.10.95 and 31.1.96 and completed the sale/purchase (sale 'Concluded Matters' in Scotland) before 31.7.96. You must also complete the application form and direct debit instruction. \*The offer can only be claimed once and is only applicable to your new property purchase. No cash alternatives will be offered. \* Calculated from the 1994 National Sales Figures based on an 8 hour working day.

SEE YELLOW PAGES FOR YOUR LOCAL BRANCH



The headline-grabbing antics of London Fashion Week obscured some great, highly wearable clothes



Left, a fluid silhouette: PEARCE FIONDA. Above, white dresses and glossy separates: (from left) KLEIN, JACKSON, PEARCE FIONDA, FARHI, FRITH

## Simply cool for summer

The fashion designer Betty Jackson called her new collection for spring/summer 1996 "Cool Simplicity", which was pretty much the common message from London Fashion Week over the weekend. Although the headlines screamed of bare bottoms, bloody bread knives and bad behaviour on the catwalks, underneath all that dreadful attention-seeking there were some really great clothes. More of them later.

This season London Fashion Week came perilously close to self-destructing as, one by one, the young new school of newsworthy designers tried hard to come to grips with their position in the spotlight.

The problem was just that. They tried too hard. What else could explain Hussein Chalayan's sad-looking collection shown in a cold, comfortless warehouse well off the beaten track, or Sennott's homage to David Bowie, Andy Warhol and those funky Factory funsters? Both shows were hot tickets, and both turned out to be as exciting as a cold shower. Their pretentious ramblings (where was something to wear?) threatened to dampen the spirit. As designers they take themselves oh-so-seriously.

Alexander McQueen certainly generates excitement, and is indeed an extremely clever designer, yet his ideas appear too wrapped up in his



angry young man pose. It is hard to imagine anyone quite so angry as McQueen, who showed his bare bottom to his audience as he took his bows. In among the scary-monster models flashing bare bosoms and V-signs at the photographers are some genuinely

unique cutting skills and fresh perspectives. If only it didn't hurt so much to watch. Nothing could be more comforting than the clothes created by the vast majority of the designers, although sadly they are not the sort destined to grab headlines. The understatement seen in Milan continued to make sense on the London catwalks. The dress is a key piece for next summer, invariably white, cut in everything from cotton piqué, nylon, shantung silk, starched cotton, linen, satin or silk taffeta. The look is crisp and modern.

Black and white proved extremely popular, but there was also, predictably, a riveting splash of colour: orange,

yellow, pink and lime green. A new name, Antonio Barardi, favoured bright red for a series of wickedly sexy dresses. Although risqué, they revealed more than just bare flesh. Definitely a name to watch. Nicholas Knightly continues to develop his sophisticated, pared-down look, adding a floral print, a flounced skirt, and a trapeze-line silhouette to his trademark jersey separates and dresses cut like shirts. Knightly's work shows a maturity beyond his years.

A young design team who offered a grown-up mood were Clements Ribeiro. Shown at the Brazilian Embassy, the designers' collection was a neat mix of shirtwaister dresses in plain or bold floral print, slim sweaters and A-line skirts, suede shirts and satin-edged evening dresses. Unusual fabrics, such as a day suit cut in moiré, added gloss.

Paul Frith gave easy-looking separates a glamorous edge by using shiny satin and nylon in white, oyster, biscuit and custard cream. Best were knitted, sleeveless slipovers worn with bell-shaped or pencil-thin skirts, and an ivory suit which mixed a boxy jacket with a pair of pedal pushers. Deceptively straightforward.

Eveningwear seems to be back in vogue, but not the frills and furbelows of yesterday. Ally Capellino, Ben de Lisi and Roland Klein all offered understated 1990s versions of the evening gown, each suiting the prevailing trend for plain and simple party dresses. The latest addition to the after dark wardrobe is a little zip-up windcheater jacket cut in satin, shot taffeta or organza.

Nicole Farhi and Margaret Howell showed collections which harked back to the late 1950s/early 1960s. Both favoured florals and checks. From Queen skirts, leather and striped knits.

Apart from a hint of lime and lilac, Betty Jackson's collection was predominantly monochrome. Elementary shapes were transformed in a mix of man-made fibres and luxurious couture-style fabrics. Essentially uncomplicated and under-styled, the pieces work together to provide numerous possibilities, mast and shiny, day or night.

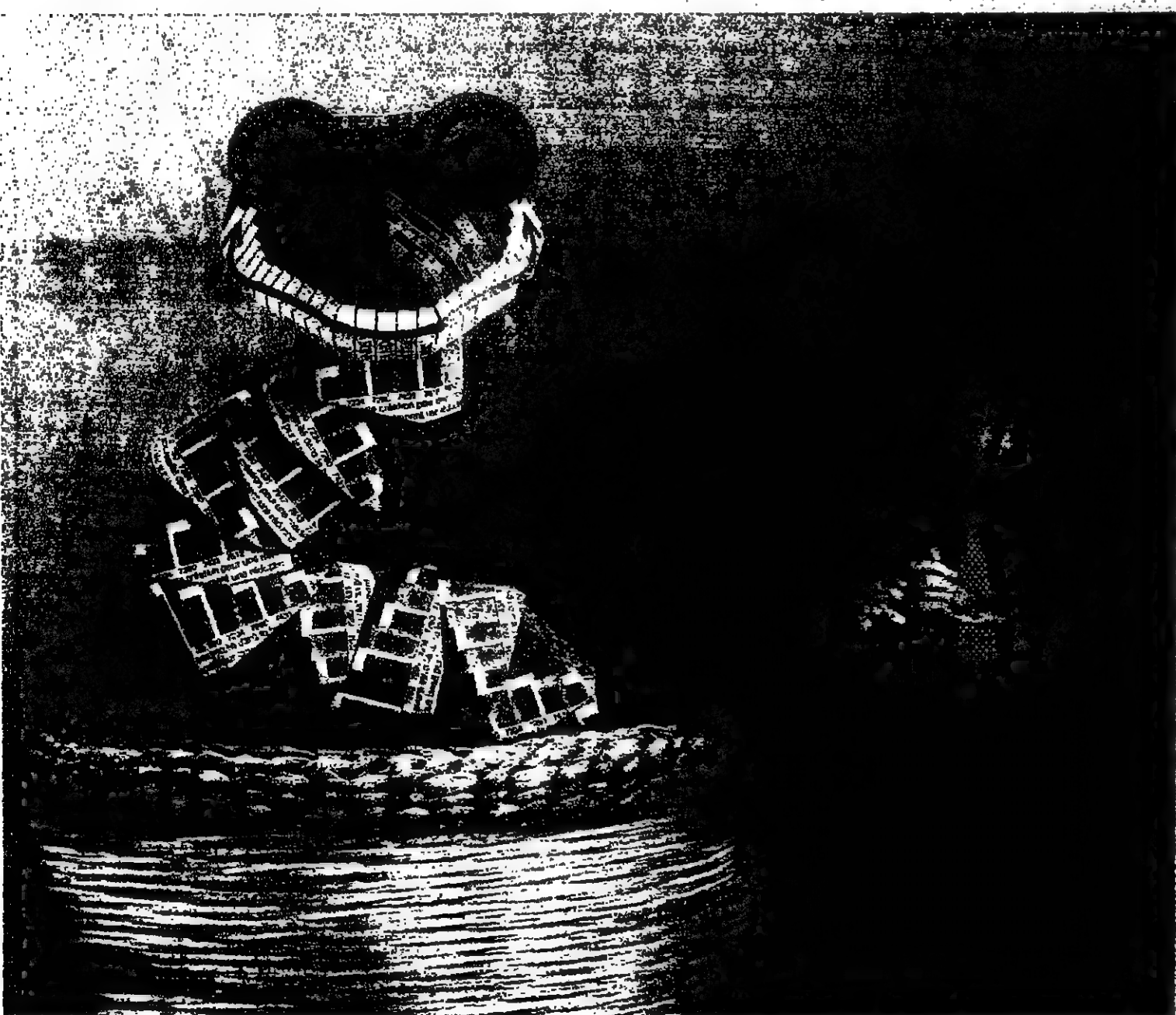
Another design duo, Pearce Fionda, proved that the young can grow up in public without nightmarish tantrums or gloomy sulks. Where previously their designs were tricky and a touch over-embellished, this season the pair produced a clean silhouette which combined the tailored and fluid. Neat shirts worn with billowing ultra-long trousers or trailing skirts; smartly fitted jackets with cigarette-thin trousers; wrap dresses and diaphanous shirts. Tiny, twisted puffed sleeves, mimicked at the hem of a jacket, were the only hint of decoration.

Even if London Fashion Week did look a little frayed at the edges, at its heart were commercially solid collections. Something to buy and, most definitely, something to wear.

Photographs by CHRIS MOORE



Eveningwear becomes more casual: ALLY CAPELLINO (top right), BEN DELISI (above right). The antithesis of fancy dress: MARGARET HOWELL (above left)



## The HP DeskJet 1600C. Win over more business with enchanting colour documents.

When it comes to presenting a new business proposal, everyone could use some extra charm. There is no better way to entrance an audience than with a splash of colour. Recent research conducted by Harvard University has shown that people are 40% more likely to read, 73% more likely to understand and 65% more likely to retain a message if it's in colour. With the HP DeskJet 1600C printer it's now quicker, easier and cheaper to get colour into

your documents. It prints up to four pages a minute in colour as well as nine pages a minute of laser quality, Resolution Enhanced black text. HP ColorSmart™ technology automatically gives you the most vibrant colours possible, even on plain paper. And in normal usage it does not cost any more to print in colour than it does to print in black and white. The HP DeskJet 1600C plugs easily into your network and because it uses the same

printer language as an HP LaserJet you don't even need to change the document setting. If that isn't enough music to your ears, anyone buying an HP DeskJet 1600C before February 1996 can claim one black and three colour cartridges free. So to the above the rest just call 01344 368222 for an offer coupon and make enquiries about the HP DeskJet 1600C - the only printer perfectly in tune with your business needs.

hp HEWLETT PACKARD

HP PRINTERS. PAPER THAT WORKS FOR YOU.

HP 1600C

Israel's who starr

La Jewell...

GET MORE 100

Put your phone

by up to 30

with DIAL

0345 160

MUSIC F

PAUL GAMBACCINI TA



# Israel's peacenik who invented starry nights

**Julia Llewellyn Smith** meets writer Amos Oz, a voice for peace and re-inventor of the Hebrew language

**A**mos Oz is Israeli and therefore, like any writer of the world, he is a "political" novelist. Readers buy his books as a substitute for a beginner's guide to the Middle East. Just as teenagers used to scan the lyrics of the Beatles' *White Album* in search of a revelation, Israelis and non-Israelis pick Oz's prose to pieces, hoping for a better understanding of his complicated country.

In that they will be disappointed, Oz's novels are the stories of Israelis who are more concerned with their falling marriages, their wayward children, and their sexual fantasies than with events on the West Bank. Not that this puts the interpreters off. "What can I do?" sighs Oz. "I wrote a story about a father, mother, child and pocket money, readers outside and inside Israel would say the father stood for tradition, the mother for religion, the child for the new Israel and the pocket money for the shaky economy."

Israel is, after all, a country whose language has no word for fiction ("My books are found in stores under 'narrative prose'") and where all novels are scrutinized for the eagerness fond parents reserve for baby pictures. Any novel is a reflection of a young, still insecure society, and for many immigrants the mark of integration is being able to read a book in Hebrew. "I make a living by helping Israelis to imagine their own country," he says.

Or's first book *My Michael*, published in this country in 1972, won comparisons abroad with *Madame Bovary* for its depiction of a young married woman retreating into a fantasy world. At home, however, it was upbraided in newspaper editorials for its dream sequences in which the heroine

quences, in which the heroine is ravished by Arab brothers. No nice Jewish girl, journalists declared, could possibly entertain such treacherous notions.

Yet Oz is no more immune to politics than his countrymen. For more than 30 years

midnight for advice and journalists beat a path to his door.

Age 56. Oz is a short but strikingly handsome man, whose chain-smoking of Marlboro Lights has bequeathed him a husky voice. His English, honed during a sabbatical at Oxford, is *immaculate*, although he has a tendency to speak in irritatingly pat soundbites. It reminds you of the remark about Dr Johnson: he doesn't just talk like a book, he talks like the second, revised edition.

"This won't be a cheerful reconciliation, a bug of long-

woman who love each other but who are trying to be everything to each other and it's a bit much, because the man is moving into a more reflective and passive mood, the woman is almost mercurial."

The novel's theme is compromise, which has been Oz's guiding principle in life and literature. He tells his stories in a cacophony of voices, taking on personas as diverse as a Jew-bating medieval Crusader, a teenaged girl or a retired Mossad agent. Each character is given equal hearing. It's like playing tennis with myself." Yet while Oz is understanding of the Palestinian problem, he despises Yassir Arafat while he vehemently criticised his country's invasion of Lebanon, the fight in the Six Day War of 1967 and the Yom Kippur War of 1973, which he considered "just".

The son of Polish immigrants, Oz was an only child who grew up in a working-class suburb of Jerusalem. Although his family was not religious, he attended a strict Orthodox school. "I was exposed to strong religion almost in a Joycean way. That is where I learnt a great deal about Jewish culture and civilisation, but early on I developed a dislike of all forms of fanaticism."

When Oz was 12, his mother committed suicide. "She was not happy with her life," says Oz, and for the first time his glances falter. "She came from Eastern Europe into a world that was in many ways very alien to her. I guess she just couldn't find any cause to live." Did she not consider having a son a reason to live? "Naturally I was very angry with her at the time," says Oz. "It was a betrayal of me. I had very serious doubts whether I was any good at all." This, perhaps more than anything, explains Oz's loathing of his mother. "I was a very sensitive child," he says. "I must have developed a very strong resentment, even hatred for death. I don't find the idea sweet, comforting or relaxing. Privately and politically I'm on the side of life."

His father was a right-wing intellectual who horrified his son by remarking three years later, "I blamed him very angrily at the time but now I think he did the right thing." In disgust, his son ran away to join a kibbutz and changed his name from Klausner to Oz, which means "strength." "I wanted to become everything," said Oz, "a farmer, a socialist, a farmer and tractor driver." My Michael was published when Oz was 29, catapulting the author to instant fame, yet for years he continued to wait on tables and take his turn as nightwatchman. He was given a studio and four days a week in which to write, and each royalty cheque was handed to the kibbutz treasurer. Oz married on the kibbutz and raised three children there. Nine years later he was diagnosed as schizophrenic. Aread after his son (now 17), an asthma sufferer, was prescribed the drug Deprenol.

**H**ebrew is still a developing language and Oz is in the privileged position of being able to mould it to his needs. "It's like a mummy coming back to life. I have invented a few words out of necessity, not arrogance. Thanks to me, we can say a *starry night* in Hebrew. Before you could only say a *night full of stars*." Taxi drivers use these words when they speak with me. They don't know that I am the proud parent."

## How Colin Firth's Mr Darcy has become the nation's heart-throb

# Pride and passions

Sunday night sees the final episode of the BBC's adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice* and the moment that nine million viewers have been waiting for: the kiss that seals the nuptials of Mr Darcy and Elizabeth Bennet.

Those who observed the kiss on set say that lips were bruised after numerous takes. "There was incredible sexual tension between them and I think that shows on screen," said one insider.

For it has emerged that Colin Firth, who plays Darcy, and Jennifer Ehle, who plays Lizzie, fell for each other in real life. Love's sweet song wove its spell in the Wiltshire countryside. Those lingering looks were for true. Passion really did surge beneath frock-coat and emmire line.

Their love affair gives their acting an added resonance and them an added radiance. It has ensured that the gossip columns have been full of talk. And it has helped to confirm Firth as the nation's heart-throb.

Of course, it helps that he plays one of the most romantic fictional characters of all time. Firth himself had never read Jane Austen's work before Andrew Davies's script landed on his desk. "Nineteenth-century literature didn't seem very sexy to me," he says. "I had this prejudice that it would probably be girls' stuff. I had never realised that Darcy was such a famous figure in literature."

**B**ut then, he continues, he would mention the script, and "everyone would tell me how they were devoted to this book, how at school they had been in love with Darcy, and my brother said, 'Darcy, isn't he supposed to be sexy?'"

There's no denying Firth's brown appeal. Aged 34, he stands six foot one in his stockinged feet, with tousled brown hair and deep-set eyes. Still the role failed to appeal. "I looked in the mirror and I didn't see Darcy," he says. "And he doubted that he was up to the part. 'I started to think 'Oh God, Olivier was fantastic and no one else could ever play the part.'"

He played with a character who remains an enigma until the end of the book. "I reasoned: 'To make myself different enough to play Darcy, I will have to do an awful lot.' But doing anything is the last thing that is right for playing Darcy. The only way for it to work is to be Darcy already."

The conviction of producer Sue Birtwistle changed his mind. "I realised that I had begun to appropriate the character and I now owned it. The thought of anyone else doing it made me feel rather jealous," he says.

His Darcy is all his own. He is neither too idiosyncratic nor too bland. Colin Firth has achieved his aim.

But he found the part exhausting. "In the first assembly-room scene, I had to go in and be hurt, hungry, intimidated, annoyed, irritated, amused, horrified, appalled and keep all these reactions within this very narrow framework of being inscrutable because nobody ever knows quite what Darv's thinking."

"I've played some far more physically energetic parts, but I don't think I've ever been as physically exhausted at the end of a take as I have with Darcy."

Firth's past roles have chiefly cast him as a member of the upper classes. He acted in both the play and film of *Another Country*, Julian Mitchell's exploration of public school life. Then he portrayed officer Robert Lawrence in the BBC film *Rumbledown*, about the Falklands War, and John McCarthy in the ITV dramatisation *Hostages*.

But although he gives every appearance of being public school, an officer and a gentleman, in fact Firth went to a comprehensive in Winchester and failed his 11-plus.

"I had a dreadful education for the most part. Throughout

A black and white photograph of a man in 19th-century equestrian attire. He is wearing a tall top hat, a light-colored frock coat over a dark waistcoat, and breeches. He stands next to a dark horse, holding its bridle. The background features a building with a window and some foliage.



## A waste of coppers' time?

Detection is only part of police work, says P.A.J. Waddington

The leaked report of the Audit Commission into police patrolling merely confirms what academic researchers have been saying for years and what most police officers recognise — beat patrol is aimless, boring and has little impact on crime. However, the Audit Commission's belief that this arises from poor management is superficial, as are the remedies they suggest.

Patrolling accounts for something like two-thirds of three-quarters of the public also demand "bobbies on the beat". Yet, neither the police nor the public seem to know what this vast expenditure of police resources is supposed to achieve.

For the police officers who do it, patrolling amounts to hours of aimless wandering the streets, hoping that something will happen. They rarely meet members of the public, and prefer to patrol in pairs so they have someone to talk to. It is highly unlikely that they will make an arrest and even more unlikely that they will detect a serious crime.

Officers are assigned to beat patrol when they join the police, but soon look for more desirable, specialised postings. Punishment for specialists is to be returned to beat patrol. The whole police bureaucracy routinely confirms that beat patrolling is of low status — the preserve of the inexperienced, ill-trained and least mature.

Even worse, the Audit Commission is correct in also pointing out how small a proportion of the patrol force is actually deployed on patrol duties — because so many are engaged in other duties, or training, or waiting interminably to appear in court. The public would be outraged if they knew how few officers are available to patrol their streets.

Most police work is in reaction to some request from a member of the public for assistance. This reactive work is highly unpredictable and disturbs all attempts to focus on issues decided in advance. So the challenge for police policymakers is how to respond effectively to this myriad of unpredictable demands.

If patrol work is measured in terms of crime-fighting effectiveness, it will always be considered a waste of money, because criminals rarely commit crimes under the gaze of patrolling officers. There will never be sufficient police to keep all public places under constant surveillance.

Nor is crime-fighting all that the public call upon the police to do. In three years' research, I found that only a quarter of calls to the police were reports of clear-cut crimes. The remainder covered an enormous range, from complaints of noise and general rowdiness to requests for help from people in distress.

For example, an elderly lady called the police from hundreds of miles away to say that her son had just phoned from a telephone box in the area to tell her that her grandchild had died suddenly. She was so

distressed that she had replaced the receiver and was now unable to contact her son. The police went to her son's address, explained what had happened and mother and son were again united in their shared grief. I doubt if anyone would consider this humane act a waste of resources.

It is the availability of a 24-hour generic emergency service that makes such interventions possible. Moreover, such a task does not require training or experience. Reserving the best trained and most experienced officers for specialist duties, such as criminal investigation or armed response, where mistakes are more serious, makes sense.

What is worrying is that the police value their wider role so little. Individual officers are likely to dismiss the routine tasks of resolving quarrels, moving on rowdy youths and helping members of the public in various ways as "rubbish", and the police administration colludes in this denigration by its emphasis on crime figures. A spurious reduction in crime is announced with a great fanfare, but rarely is attention drawn to the many other valuable tasks performed by the police. Officers who make many arrests are frequently described by their superiors as "active", while colleagues who provide just as valuable a service in other ways are ignored.

If the police valued patrol work, they would pay as much attention to this non-crime work as they do to crime. Here the Audit Commission has a point: officers are rarely debriefed. Much police work involves sweeping social problems under the carpet. If officers defuse a potentially nasty quarrel between neighbours, no one will want to know. Only if the row gets out of hand and an arrest is made is there likely to be any recognition.

Any officer will confirm that an inordinate amount of police work is devoted to the same people and places, time after time. Police find themselves returning to the same families to sort out their domestic squabbles, retrieve missing children, arrest wayward family members and so forth. They also find that poor parking facilities in a particular area, the presence of a place of entertainment, or some other problem produces repeated complaints from those affected. Yet these persistent problems are unlikely to receive a co-ordinated response. Each individual complaint or call for assistance is dealt with separately. If co-ordinated action is taken, however, possibly involving other agencies, repeat calls can be significantly reduced.

The Audit Commission has acquired an influence on police policy that vastly exceeds its expertise. It is right to draw attention to the problems of police patrol, but superficial remedies are likely to make matters worse.

Professor Waddington is the author of *Calling the Police* (Avebury, £35).



## School for control freaks

The very last thing that education needs is Downing Street bossiness

John Major wants to take over every school in England and Wales. He has said so twice recently, and the proposal was confirmed in Monday's *Times*. He must be mad.

Mr Major already runs every prison in the land, every hospital, every motorway, every railway, every Job-centre, every training council. He is set on running every police force, every university, every county, every town, and on this week's form almost every charity. The strain is beginning to show — not least on hapless ministers who must answer for anything remiss in their master's burgeoning empire.

Centralising control over Britain's 24,000 local schools would be the most sweeping act of nationalisation since Antae set up the National Health Service. The takeover would be "hostile" and resisted: the schools were built by and belong to local councils and charities. It would lack any democratic mandate, enforced only because voluntary "opting out" has failed. Parents and governors have indicated in countless ballots that they do not want to transfer from council ownership to the Government's new Funding Agency for Schools. So they are to be forced to do so. Such compulsion would be the act of a lurch Prime Minister in thrall to the so-called "control freaks" now running riot in Downing Street and the Treasury.

But let us calm down and return to the start of this extraordinary tale. The progenitor of school nationalisation was Nigel Lawson. In 1985 he proposed removing education from local control as part of his alternative to the poll tax. Margaret Thatcher balked at nationalising schools. In her 1988 Education Act, she merely allowed them the right to leave council control voluntarily. Since she also forced councils to free school budgets from irksome bureaucracy, opting out never took wing.

Ministers were furious. At the Education Department, first Kenneth Baker, then Kenneth Clarke, then John Patten came to regard opting out as a sign of Thatcherite virility. Money was offered to schools to opt out. Shortly before her ousting, Margaret Thatcher asked her policy unit how to "unbundle" education from local authorities and leave them with a purely "advisory role". Mr Major took up the cry. Another Education Act in 1993 made opting out easier. A junior minister, Eric

Forth, said he was "ending the long-standing local authority monopoly of state education".

In the 1993 Act, the Government abandoned any idea of these being self-governing institutions, as Margaret Thatcher wanted. Mr Major's Cabinet insisted on control, bringing them under an arm of the Education Department called the Funding Agency for Schools. It was headed by a "chief executive", Mike Collier, on £94,000 a year. This was to be no soft-touch regulator but a full nationalised industry. Opted-out school governors could be appointed and sacked by the Secretary of State, who would also determine the schools' size and character — a euphemism for admissions policy. They could be opened, closed and sold at the Government's will.

Margaret Thatcher had promised that any opted-out school could expand to take any pupil whose parents wished to apply. The logical consequence of this was popular schools having to take all comers and combining into vast "comprehensive" campuses. This appealed neither to the schools nor to the Treasury. Schools wish to protect their size and league-table ranking. Most have preferred academic selection to expansion. At Birmingham, Mr Major openly encouraged such a return to ill-plus selection, his speechwriter apparently unaware that this is the antithesis of parental choice. As for the Treasury, it refused to permit opted-out schools to expand if that meant classrooms standing empty in neighbouring schools.

Today, and despite every ministerial inducement, only 1,000 out of 4,000 secondary schools in England and Wales have welcomed Whitehall's proffered embrace, and virtually none of the 20,000 primary schools. Most are either old grammar schools or small schools threatened with closure by Whitehall's pressure on councils to reduce overcapacity — one Whitehall policy conflicting with another. The scheme has all but dried up. It was driven not by any belief in

institutional independence — the 1993 Act put paid to that — but by a visceral hatred of local government on the part of Margaret Thatcher and John Major. Hatred rarely makes sound policy.

A sensible Cabinet would leave well alone. Enough chaos has been visited on Britain's schools since the 1993 Act. Mr Major can already control teachers' pay, school buildings, school budgets and the curriculum. Gillian Shephard can determine the "pattern of schooling" in any area, build new schools and ban a local council from opening a school in competition with her own. Mr Major has all the control over schools any minister could hope to handle. Yet he wants more. He has joined the freaks.

In his Birmingham speech, Mr Major appeared to seek statutory powers to dissolve local education committees, seize school premises and hand their finance and development over to his agency. This irrespective of the wishes of local voters, teachers, parents or governors. This is a true statist Reformation, a Dissolution of the Authorities. I am baffled as to why, I hear no great cry of "nationalise the schools". The cause is on no poster's scanner.

Accountability in such a system will be near impossible. As Michael Howard had to answer for a Parkhurst menu and Virginia Bottomley for an Edgware ward closure, so ministers will have to justify each classroom extension, each ill-plus failure, each examination performance, all at the Commons dispatch box. The Funding Agency's Mr Collier is already being groomed as the Derek Lewis of this fiasco. It is lunacy.

I am told that the murky reasoning behind all this is that the Treasury understandably cannot face financing two potentially competitive school systems: Mr Major's selective grant-maintained schools, and local comprehensive struggling to keep up. Rivalry would leave hundreds of classrooms empty each year. One solution might be to sit tight and treat

the opted-out sector as "national grammars", taking roughly a quarter of pupils, and use the 1988 Act to reduce council schools to secondary moderns. This reversion to pre-1960s educational apartheid appears to have stuck in Downing Street's throat. Equally unthinkable is to return primary and secondary education to local discretion.

Mr Major's preference is, unsurprisingly, for him to take over all schools himself. This is the proposal that has been hacked between his policy unit and the Treasury, to the horror of the Education and Environment Departments. Since Mrs Shephard was left stranded by the Birmingham speech, we can assume that her views do not rate. The matter has not even gone to Cabinet. Mr Major means to show he still has Thatcherite hairs on his chest.

Removing all schools from local council control would end what surviving schools of discretion remain in local government. No Western democracy has a school system responsible solely to a national parliament, with the exception of France (which is decentralising fast). Mr Major's schools would not be independent schools but "state" schools properly so-called.

School governors minded to opt out may long to break free of their local education committees. They should have been warned by last year's capping regime, when Mr Clarke capped schools from overstepping their budgets, even if it meant sacking teachers. For Mr Major to talk, as he did to *The Times*, about "self-government" of schools was rubbish. Governors should read the Learmonth report on prisons, talk to any university professor, ask any hospital doctor what Downing Street's control freaks are really like. Labour showed its true colours when it recently promised to keep the Funding Agency in place. It can tell a good nationalisation when it sees one.

Running an education service was once the pride and joy of Britain's local councils. Conservative as well as Labour. They may not always have done it well. But to think that central government must do it better is fantasy born of the arrogance of power. What makes Mr Major think that there are votes in all this?

Simon Jenkins's *Accountability* (None: The Tory Nationalisation of Britain is published this week by Hamish Hamilton at £16.99).

Alan Coren



Unreasonable, unseasonable weather gives me the creepy-crawlies

Of all God's many mistakes, the dafest was giving me dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the Earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the Earth. That is just too much dominion for anyone to handle, even in normal weather: get the hottest October since 1662, and even dominion over the dahlias goes to pieces.

In a tree just beyond the attic window behind which I am writing this, a fowl of the air is looking at me. It has a large twig in its beak. It brought the twig to the tree some time ago, but it has done nothing about it. Clearly, it is in two minds about what to do with the twig: the balm of Gilead spring has suggested that it start building a nest, but deep down the fowl knows that building a nest at this time of year would be crazy. If it built a nest, this would only encourage a female fowl to expect something, and it does not know whether it could handle that. It has never tried it twice a year. It is looking to me for dominion.

I do not want it to build the nest. Unlike the fowl, I have it on good authority from Ian McEwan that the warm weather will not last. Even if the fowl manages to hack it with a female fowl, their eggs will freeze. The parents will not understand why their offspring have not emerged. Come Christmas they will be trying to teach the eggs to fly. Heartbreaking. Dominion demands I step in: but how? If I open the window and shout at the fowl, it will only take the twig somewhere else. I shall have to wait until the nest is built and then poke it off with a broom. The fowl will blame me. It does not know about God.

And though I shall not, unfortunately, be called upon to exercise my dominion over the fish of the sea, the frogs of the pond are crying out for it. Literally. As the result of this crying out, which is why they do it, the frogs of the pond are now gummy: together in pairs, I went down this morning, and all their eyes looked plaintively up at me, in sets of four. They did not seem to be enjoying themselves much, and I am hardly surprised: they know they should have been long gone, pottering the undergrowth and doing the hoarsest of hoarse things frogs do when the nights draw in to get their strength up for the imminent frosts, not sapping it with unseasonal nookie which will only end up with their doomed spawn, speckled into the ice. Caring dominion? Surely requires me to prise them apart, but can I bring myself to do it? There is, after all, an outside chance that, appearances notwithstanding, they are actually having a good time. You cannot tell much from a frog's face.

That is how I ended up at the dahlias: in flight from an imponderable complication, towards a little guiltless enjoyment at their unseasonal splendour. But chance. I should have dug them up long since and stored them carefully in the garage to rot. Had I done that, they would not now be infested with every creeping thing that creepeth upon the Earth. And happily, what should I not know absolutely nothing about the dominion required over October, greenfly, earwig, slugs, leechpots, never mind peculiar things not seen since 1662 — possibly not even then. Peeps would, I'm sure, have mentioned a thumb-sized bag with ten legs and a full head of hair — and I therefore have no idea of the proper course of action. I have a sheaf of leading-edge pesticides, but none of their labels suggests spraying in October, the consequences are incalculable, bugs might thrive to sci-fi dimensions, the dahlias turn feral, the come layer shrivel and fall off, anything. Worse yet, should these disparate freakishnesses begin to interact with one another, ecology being the tricky jockey it is, you do not have to know much about chaos theory to wonder whether, before very long, our dominion over cattle, hitherto relatively unchallenged, might not face serious setback. Big mean cows could be tricky. It could become impossible to get a decent steak without first calling up air support. Forget milk altogether.

So I climbed back here into the attic to avoid thinking about any of this, but then the fowl turned up. And when I opened the window just now to get a better look at it, a bee flew in. It was the size of a plum.

P-H-S

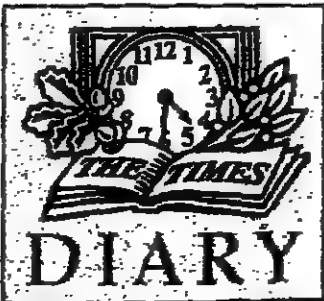
## Beauty parlour

A TRIO OF supermodels have outmanoeuvred the British film establishment to an era of cinema history flickering to a close. Naomi Campbell, Elle Macpherson and Claudia Schiffer have won their battle to turn the West End's last Edwardian cinema into a theme restaurant.

On Friday, a report by planners to Westminster City Council will recommend that the once world-famous Rialto Cinema should become the Fashion Café. It will be in

direct competition with nearby Planet Hollywood, which belongs to beefcakes Arnie Schwarzenegger, Sly Stallone and Bruce Willis.

The planners' recommendation, which is unlikely to be challenged by the council, will appeal Lord Attenborough and Sir David Putnam, who have been campaigning to restore the cinema. The Rialto closed 13 years ago and has been described as the finest old cinema in London. "We need elegant



cinemas such as the Rialto to get the most out of films," says Attenborough. "I love eating out, but we have an awful lot of restaurants."

The Telegraph's cheerful disposition must not ever look like complacency, she insists. "News stories are, of course, alarmist and we should play on people's fears although not perhaps their prejudices. The middle classes want to read about unemployment and

negative equity and juvenile delinquency. We should sell stories hard but just stop short of distortion."

Sands goes on to name some 30 journalists whom the paper should recruit. Fourth on the list is Barbara Amiel — who happens to be the wife of the Telegraph's owner, Conrad Black.

● You might think the burly and bearded botanist David Bellamy unmistakable. But on the contrary, he was recently taken for the diminutive figure of the Environment Secretary, John Gummer. "I arrived at a plant life conference in France, where a red carpet was rolled out for me," he says. "Then officials started referring to me as the Environment Minister. I'm sure it was because I was wearing a suit for a change," he boomed.

### Bug bearer

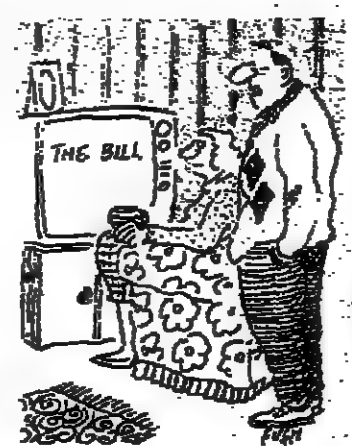
YVES ST LAURENT'S first haute couture show in London, after more than 30 years in the business, took place at the Savoy on Monday night in aid of Unicef. But the Duchess of Kent, Unicef's royal patron, had to cry off.

The Duchess, 62, was struck down by a "viral bug" in the afternoon, according to a representative, and was forced to cancel all engagements. Only recently she

was forced to miss the Duke of Kent's 60th birthday party, hosted by the Queen at Buckingham Palace, owing to "flu". I wish her a speedy recovery.

### Anyone there?

THE CLERGY are considering space travel to save souls. In the forthcoming issue of the *Catholic Herald*, Father Piero Coda, a Roman theology professor, suggests that the Catholic Church should consider "evangelisation missions in outer space".



"It's not realistic — some of them are still on the beat"



Three graces from silver screen to hot dishes

السلامة والسلامة



## ON THE BEAT

Patrolling policemen are a prop of our civic order

The policeman on the beat is one of the enduring heroes of British civic culture. In his Tory party conference speech, John Major promised that 5,000 more officers would soon be patrolling the nation's streets. Tony Blair has put a similar premium on the role of the bobby on the beat. Yet a leaked Audit Commission report has raised serious doubts about the reality behind the rhetoric.

The confidential paper is reported to argue that the deployment of patrolling policemen is inefficient; that this area of police responsibility is "close to the bottom rung of the police status ladder"; and that patrol work fails to match public expectation. If the final version of the report makes these claims, it will pose fundamental questions about the future of the police service.

The task of the Audit Commission is to identify waste, mismanagement and underachievement in the public sector, a task it performs well. Yet there are different kinds of audit. The value of the policeman on the beat to primary people is not easily quantified, or subjected to efficiency tests.

The presence of a police officer on the streets is more than a deterrent to crime. It is a symbol of public order and the right of law-abiding people to go about their business wherever they please. For every householder assisted by the police when his home is burgled, there are a thousand pedestrians reassured by the sight of a bobby on the beat. A civilised society cannot afford to have "no-go zones" where ordinary people fear to tread. Its efforts to make the streets safe are as vital as they are hard to measure.

There is certainly an important role for transparency, league tables and clear performance indicators in the future of the police.

The introduction of targets and the emulation of best practice can only be to the benefit of a public service long bedevilled by Spanish practices and canteen culture. But these reforms should not divert attention from those aspects of police work which are not reflected in performance tables.

Getting policemen back on the beat remains one of the most complex problems facing the service. Last year, the Police Foundation suggested a new category of "designated patrol officers", able to arrest for minor public offences only. While such a scheme might put more officers on the streets, it would also be confusing for the public. Why employ a police officer who could arrest a drunk but not a bank robber? Instead, greater effort must be made to liberate officers from unnecessary tasks.

The Home Office should not drop its campaign to divide police work into core tasks, which must be performed by policemen, and ancillary responsibilities, which can be contracted out to civilians. Above all, it must be made more attractive for policemen to stay on the beat in the first place. The most damning criticism of the commission's report is that officers regard foot patrol as the unglamorous work of the untalented. They are increasingly drawn to the opportunities offered by specialist duties, involving technology and sophisticated surveillance methods. If ministers are serious about putting more high-calibre officers on the beat, they must offer appropriate incentives. The idea of bonuses for teachers who opt to work in inner city sink schools is already under discussion. Why not offer incentives to policemen willing to stay on the streets?

## WHEN IN ROME

Italy is at the cliff's edge again, preparing to step forward

The speed with which Italy's latest, and possibly gravest, postwar political storm has gathered has taken the country, and even its politicians, by surprise. Autumn brought the usual rash of public sector strikes. But otherwise, the "non-political" Government which took over after the collapse of Silvio Berlusconi's coalition last December, appeared to be steadily gaining in authority. Yet tomorrow he will be lucky to survive the vote of "no confidence" tabled by Signor Berlusconi. Even if he scrapes through, his Government seems certain to be so badly winged that it cannot govern. Italy seems inescapably headed into a chaotic election campaign, its third in four years.

In theory, this should be salutary. Signor Dini has governed for nine months on a caretaker basis, backed by the centre-left parties who lost the 1994 elections. This is no advertisement for democracy. For political stability, Italy needs elections; only then can it hope for a Government with a solid mandate to carry out sustained economic and social reforms. The trouble is that elections to produce such a result, it needs political stability. The latest saga reveals how little of that there is around.

At the heart of the row is a serious constitutional dispute over the proper balance of power between Italy's widely discredited legislature and its much more respected judiciary. Filippo Mancuso, the Italian Justice Minister, has angered Signor Dini and the Left by accusing the anti-corruption teams of magistrates of abusing their powers. The Prime Minister cannot however sack his Justice Minister; instead, the entire Cabinet has to offer its resignation to the President.

To get round that constitutional hurdle, the Senate voted to remove Signor Mancuso last week. He refused to go, accused the Prime Minister of "supine" conduct and even more dramatically, hinted that President Scalfaro had yet to account for his use of secret funds as Minister of the Interior in the 1980s. Signor Berlusconi, who faces trial in January on corruption charges and naturally sees eye to eye with Signor Mancuso, seized the moment to put the Government as a whole on the rack. In Italy's crazed political hall of mirrors, the Right's no-confidence motion has the support of the curiously named Reconstructed Communist Party, the hardline Communist rump.

There could well be defections tomorrow, but on paper, this opportunistic Right-Left alliance has the votes to win. Even if it does, President Scalfaro does not have to dissolve parliament; but if he does not, the same coalition could well vote down Italy's all-important 1996 budget. If he does opt for a dissolution, six months could elapse before elections are held and a new Government formed. It will be a campaign in the shadow of scandal: Signor Berlusconi's problems with the magistrates are matched on the Left by those of Massimo D'Alema, the leader of the ex-communist Democratic Party of the Left, who is under investigation for illegal funding of his party.

For the rest of Europe, it matters that Italy seems unable to escape the political sickbed. The country lies on a sensitive faultline, between the Balkans and North Africa; and in January, it takes on the six-month presidency of the European Union. Only a few weeks ago Signor Dini, whose taste for political power has grown with every month in his "non-political" job, was confidently predicting Italy's early return to the European exchange rate mechanism and staking his claim to lead the country until next July. This week, as the Lira tumbles again, the more likely prospect is that Italy will be the fourth country in a row to chair the EU while deeply enmeshed in political scandal, or in the midst of an election campaign. Politics, sent on sabbatical last January, has returned to Rome in vengeful mode.

## DARKNESS AT NOON

The Sun in its courses eclipses the pretensions of little men

Life came to a halt across a swath of Asia yesterday when millions stopped work to gaze in awe at the darkened heavens. The total eclipse of the Sun, a phenomenon as rare as it is bizarre, cast a shadow from Iran to Indonesia. This fascinated astronomers, terrified the superstitious and gave astrologers and soothsayers their most employment for years. Drums beat at Angkor Wat as Buddhist monks strained, behind special eclipse glasses, to see whether the Sun was eating the Moon — a good omen — or vice-versa, a less welcome portent. Thousands gathered in Borneo, where the eclipse lasted a record 160 seconds, shouted in glee as the last rays of the Sun faded in the firmament.

In India, however, there was near panic: the eclipse unhappily coincided with Diwali, the festival of light, and the contradiction between the forces of light and darkness was universally seen as a harbinger of havoc. The superstitious stayed indoors with the blinds drawn, fearful of being blighted by the Moon's shadow. P. V. Narasimha Rao, the Pisan Prime Minister, was so alarmed by his favourite astrologer's prediction of political eclipse that he has prolonged his visit to the United Nations with some other hastily arranged urgent business, to keep him abroad long enough to escape any malign influences from the heavens. Government by galactic constellation is indeed unusual, but not wholly unknown even in the West. Nancy Reagan also planned her husband's diary according to the Zodiac.

History is replete with examples of battles won, treaties broken and tyrants overthrown because of solar eclipses. The earliest record is in the Chinese *Shu Ching*. It tells how the divine figures of Hsi and Ho were deemed to have abandoned their duties to keep the Sun on course and gone on a drinking binge, so causing an eclipse. A military expedition was sent to punish such negligence. Homer twice makes the unrecognised Odysseus predict his return during an eclipse. On the day he was to slay the wife's suitors Theoclymenus notes that "the Sun has perished out of heaven, and an evil mist has spread over all". Herodotus tells how during the battle between the Lydians and the Medes, a total eclipse induced them to make peace. But the unhappiest victims of such solar quirks were the Athenians who were so dismayed by the solar eclipse of August 3, 431 BC and the lunar eclipse three weeks later that they refused to set off for battle and as a result were all killed or captured by the less superstitious Syracusans.

Eclipses are predictable. Alan Quartermain's wily use of astronomy is the denouement of *King Solomon's Mines*. They are markers in the diurnal round, guides to events in antiquity. Their baleful effects are, luckily, far from proved. But even sophisticated scientists cannot fail to be stirred and humbled by the eerie half-light, as brightness falls from the air and the flames of heavenly life are momentarily quenched.

## Accountability in Prison Service

From Mrs Karen Caines and Professor Eric Caines

Sir, We support the commonsense tone of your leader on the limitations attaching to the devolution of management responsibility in the Prison Service ("Where the buck stops", October 22 letters, October 19, 21, 23).

The Next Steps report to the Prime Minister, which launched executive agencies (details, February 4, 1988), did not provide a single blueprint to be applied to every situation. As you say, the operating circumstances of HM Prison Service, the HMSO and Historic Scotland are not comparable. What makes them different is the degree of political sensitivity of their operations.

The Next Steps team was acutely aware of the extent to which politics and management interacted in government departments. But it also found, in the course of extensive field work, that there was a high level of unnecessary political interference in day-to-day operations as well as the appointment at top management levels of senior civil servants with expertise only in policy-making simply because the existence of the two functions existed within the same structures.

Next Steps was an attempt to place as much distance between the two as practically possible.

The case of the removal of the Parkhurst governor is atypical. Because of its high political content it was an issue in which the Home Secretary could not avoid being involved. In short, it fell in that area in which a clear distinction between operations and policy-making cannot be drawn.

To that extent Mr Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, though acting correctly, was entirely wrong in seeking to sustain a rigid distinction. He had the right to inquire into how the issue was being handled by Mr Derek Lewis, Director-General of the Prison Service, and he had the right to disagree as he did, with what Mr Lewis was doing.

In that case he should have told the House of Commons that he overruled his Director-General.

What remains true, however, is that there must be large areas of day-to-day management over which the Home Secretary does not need to exercise close control and where to do so would seriously undermine the ability of the Prison Service to do the job required of it.

It is on these areas that the examination being undertaken in the aftermath of the Learmont inquiry into the escape of three dangerous prisoners from Parkhurst in January needs to concentrate and where a greater disengagement between the Home Secretary's Office and the Prison Service could probably be achieved.

Yours truly,  
KAREN CAINES  
(Co-author, Next Steps: Improving the Management of Government)  
ERIC CAINES  
(Director of Personnel and Finance, Prison Service, 1984-87)  
University of Nottingham,  
Centre for Health Services Management,  
Portland Building,  
University Park, Nottingham.  
October 23.

## Clamping tax evaders

From Mr T. J. Horton

Sir, Let me reassure your correspondent Mr Boote (October 14) that the scheme to clamp the cars of those dodging car tax will be focused on serious evaders. The scheme is not designed to punish those whose tax disc may have fallen off the windscreen, or who are a day or two late in renewing it.

Before any car is clamped, the details will be checked against the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency's records. So the "decent folk" to whom Mr Boote refers have nothing to fear. Unfortunately, experience shows that in most cases where no up-to-date disc is shown, the motorist is simply trying to evade the tax that is due. The new scheme is aimed firmly at stamping out this evasion.

Yours faithfully,  
TREVOR HORTON  
(Executive Director, Development Group, Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency, Longview Road, Swansea.  
October 18.

## Top Nato posts

From Mr Stephen Curtis

Sir, Your leading article, "Nunn for Nato" (October 19), incorrectly identified the two most senior military positions in Nato. They are the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, and the Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic. The Southern European Commander, Admiral Leighton Smith, is merely the busiest.

Yours faithfully,  
STEPHEN CURTIS  
(Special Assistant to C-in-C, Allied Forces, Southern Europe, 1992-94).  
67 Prince of Wales Mansions,  
Prince of Wales Drive, SW11.  
October 19.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

## Plan to 'nationalise' state schools

From Mr Michael Fabricant, MP for Mid Staffordshire (Conservative)

Sir, Plans to fund all state schools centrally from the Department for Education (report, October 23) are long overdue.

Staffordshire is not atypical, suffering from a shortfall in education funding with the Labour-controlled county council blaming the Government — albeit that Staffordshire has one of the largest financial reserves of any county in England — and vice versa.

Now that we have a national curriculum and local school management, the time is right for central funding. The political buck-passing between local and national government must stop. The administrative savings from cutting out the local education authority middle-man are obvious and can be passed on to the schools for whom the funding is intended.

The central funding "experiment" has worked. It is time for the Government to side-step the hostile propaganda from self-interested education authorities who mislead parents and governors. Let us centrally fund all state schools now: before the next election.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL FABRICANT,  
House of Commons.  
October 23.

From Baroness Farrington of Ribblesdale

Sir, The removal of school funding from local education authorities would be nothing short of the nationalisation of our schools. It is bizarre that it comes from a Government which claims to be in favour of parental choice.

Your leader today, "The centre can hold", correctly underlines the need for local government to remain a strong and democratic provider of public services. Local government's role is to reflect the needs of local communities through democratically elected and locally accountable councils. It should not be emasculated to give effect to central government policies.

## Pill warning

From Dr Brian D. Keighley

Sir, The confusion over the release of the information about the Pill, only one of a succession of public relations failures, has been heavily reported. However, herein lies the solution to the problem.

There is already an established and well-used system of embargoed press release for important statements by government ministers on matters of policy. The Department of Health should immediately seek the agreement of media editors that in future they would honour such embargoed information in the interests of public health.

In this way it would be immaterial if a journalist obtained advance information fortuitously. GPs could be given adequate warnings so that they could lay proper plans to allay public anxiety with full information.

If such a system had been in place last week, failure to honour an embargo would have left editors with unwanted pregnancies in very vulnerable women on their collective consciences.

Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN D. KEIGHLEY  
(Chairman, Scottish General Medical Services Committee, British Medical Association),  
The Clinic,  
Buchanan Street,  
Balfour, Stirlingshire,  
October 23.

From Dr Susan Dukes

Sir, "The Pill you are taking is dangerous. Don't panic. Consult your GP." That, in effect, is how the public was told on October 19 to respond to a warning by government scientists that

on schools which have failed to convince parents.

Yours faithfully,  
JOSEPHINE FARRINGTON  
(Chair, Executive Council),  
Association of County Councils,  
Eaton House,  
66a Eaton Square, SW1,  
October 24.

From Mr T. J. K. Sims

Sir, As the chairman of governors of two local education authority schools, I am most concerned to learn of proposals being considered by the Prime Minister.

We greatly benefit from the invaluable support and help from our council's education department, which is also well acquainted with the needs and difficulties of all our other local schools. Surely a faraway Department for Education is no substitute?

Another considerable area of concern is the shortage of dedicated and skilled people available as governors, who have the time to devote to managing a school and can commit themselves to this task — with its enormous responsibilities — for a period of years.

The Government's presumed proposals will not encourage more volunteers and will place an even greater burden on those who serve.

Yours faithfully,  
TIM SIMS  
(Chairman of Governors),  
The Hyde Infant School,  
The Hyde Junior School,  
Hyde Crescent, NW9.

From Mr A. H. Hart

Sir, Sir Robert Balchin, chairman of the Grant-Maintained Schools Foundation, is wrong when he says in your report that the choice is between local authority bureaucrats and the children's education. The choice is between local authority bureaucrats and central government bureaucrats.

Yours faithfully,  
A. H. HART,  
Wrotham Hill Park, Wrotham, Kent.  
October 23.

From Mr Robin I. Morgan

Sir, Your leader is too much in the style of "Big Brother knows best". It might have been acceptable in wartime, but not today, when we are far less regimented, people work more flexible hours, shops stay open longer and there is generally much greater freedom to plan one's time.

Rather than play around with the clock, and the twice-yearly confusion that brings, we should stick to GMT and adjust our own hours to make the most of the daylight if we so wish.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBIN I. MORGAN,  
13 Broadwater Close, Woking, Surrey.  
October 23.

From Mr John Player

Sir, How useful to have the extra hour on Saturday night. It took me just 55 minutes to change two quartz carriage clocks, two wall clocks, digital timers on the water softener, the hi-fi system, the video, the dishwasher and the cooker, system clocks on two computers, three family watches, three bedside clock alarms, two car clocks and two car radios.

I then spent five minutes wondering what I had forgotten.

Yours faithfully,  
J. C. PLAYER,  
Grange Farm Cottage,  
Saxham Street, Stowmarket, Suffolk.

From Commander J. A. S. Wedderburn, RN (ret'd)

Sir, First it was "Britain in the dark" (leading article, October 25, 1993); then it was "Change time" (September 1, 1994); this year it is "Time to change time".

Do you think it might be possible for you to stop blathering about time at this time of year, and accept that *The Times* is out of tune with time, in this part of the kingdom at least?

Yours, for old Times sake,  
IAN WEDDERBURN,  
Dunlichy Lodge, Farr, Inverness.  
October 24.

From Mr J. Walker

Sir, I assume that the powers that be, who make us persist with the outdated practice of altering our clocks twice a year, are not dog owners.

Perhaps they could persuade our boxer, cheerfully digging us out of bed at 4 o'clock this morning, that it is really 5 o'clock.

Yours faithfully,  
J. WALKER,  
46 Station Road, Herne Bay, Kent.  
October 21.

## Short rations

From Mrs Kerra St. John

Sir, My whole identity has been called into question by computer address systems that cannot cope with a simple full stop (letters, September 23, October 2, 5, 10, 19). On some mail I am Mrs St. On others, I am transformed into a stranger known as Mrs John. The individual known as Mrs St. John seems to have disappeared forever into some computer black hole.

I am, Sir, very definitely,  
Yours faithfully,  
KERRA ST. JOHN,  
68 Lonsdale Road, Oxford.  
October 19.











John Young introduces a two-page report on the Dragon Awards for community initiatives undertaken by London-based businesses

# Breathing the fire of life into deprived city areas

The awards will be presented to the sponsors of the winning enterprises tonight by Sir Christopher Walford, Lord Mayor of London, at a banquet

If capitalism has a conscience, it might be said to be exemplified in the Dragon Awards. Now in their eighth year, they reflect the tentative but growing relationship between those who spend their working days within the glittering towers of the Square Mile and those who are struggling to improve the lot of others who live in deprived areas only a few minutes' drive away.

It has long been one of the capital's ironies that the City, the financial hub of Europe where vast fortunes are transacted hourly, should have as its immediate neighbours the London boroughs of Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham and Southwark, which are among the poorest not just in London but in Britain.

The 1980s, the heyday of Thatcherism, was a decade when corporate business was torn between exulting in its own success and an uneasy awareness that the boom was not benefiting everyone alike, that small businesses were struggling, communities fragmenting and tensions developing.

The impact of the Big Bang and the technological revolution had not been modified by the sort of Victorian philanthropy that mitigated the harsher aspects of the Industrial Revolution more than a century earlier.

In a move to correct the balance, the then Lord Mayor, Sir David

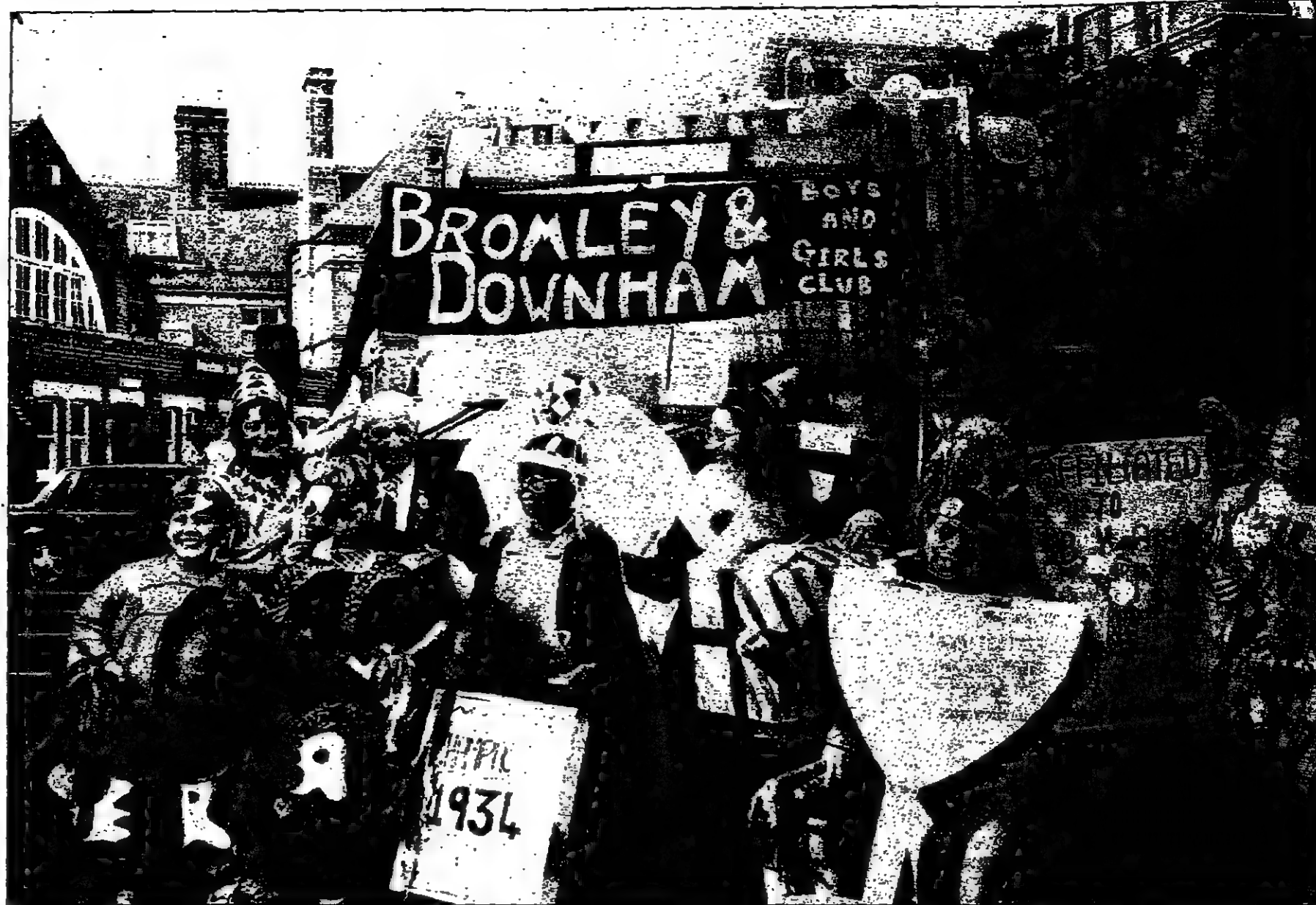
Rowe-Ham, supported by several prominent City businessmen, held talks with Business in the Community, one of the Prince of Wales's favourite charities, which aims to encourage industrialists to become involved with their neighbourhood communities and to provide finance and expertise in establishing new ventures, particularly among the unemployed.

The result was the launch, in July 1987, with the Prince's support, of the Dragon Awards; their aim was to highlight, and give recognition to, some of the significant contributions that London businesses make to the improvement of community life and the enhancement of employment opportunities.

The attendant publicity would, it was hoped, encourage other uncommitted organisations to follow the example of those that had already seen the light.

Any community involvement initiative is eligible, including programmes for recruiting employees to work as volunteers; refurbishment and renovation projects; training programmes for the unemployed; partnership arrangements with schools and colleges; fundraising activities; and the improvement of social and recreational facilities.

The awards are directed at businesses, in other words the



Bromley and Downham Boys and Girls Club takes part in a parade — one of the activities that won Herbert Smith the Employee Community Involvement award.

corporate sponsors of community projects, although voluntary organisations and charities are encouraged to nominate their beneficiaries.

This year's awards were divided into the following categories:

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING:

For organisations working with schools, colleges, national education bodies, and training and enterprise councils, to help raise the motivation and achievements of young or disadvantaged people. A previous winner was the Burger King's Docklands Academy, which helps students who have dropped out or been excluded from school to return to education.

## EMPLOYEE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

For organisations which have en-



couraged participation by their employees: such as involvement with local schools, help with fundraising activities, providing secondments and giving advice and assistance to community projects.

For example, BET, a previous winner, has established the Foyer initiative, which helps people with

career advice, preparing CVs and how to behave at interviews.

## ENVIRONMENT:

For projects which both provide environmental benefits and have a direct effect on the local community. They may be based in natural or built environments, in either town or countryside, and must have contributed to landscape improvement, pollution control, energy conservation or education. In this category Barclays Bank have worked closely with Groundwork in encouraging local people to turn derelict, neglected, and unsightly land around their homes into recreational areas.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AWARD:

For initiatives that have directly stimulated economic activity through support for the development of small enterprises in areas

of inner-city stress and unemployment, or for work which results in the economic regeneration of local communities. A past award winner is Lehman Brothers which, in partnership with the Prince's Youth Business Trust, provides financial support for young people in Tower Hamlets with viable business projects but no other source of funding.

## LONDON PARTNERSHIP AWARD:

For initiatives in which a partnership or a consortium of companies have worked together for community benefit. Such a partnership led to the Brix at St. Matthews, the conversion of a redundant church building in Brixton to provide a new multi-purpose community centre.

## CITY FIRM AWARD:

As its name suggests, a special

award intended to recognise the achievements of firms based in the City of London, or engaged in the financial sector, which take part in community activities. An established example is that of Lovell White Durand, a firm of solicitors, which has trained many of its employees to provide individual literacy tuition to adults.

This year's awards focused particularly on City companies and financial sector institutions, and of the 92 entries received 34 were from the financial sector. The judges were the Lord Mayor, Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England; Lord Sheppard of Digemere, chairman of Grand Metropolitan; Nick Hardwick, chief executive of the Refugee Council; and Paul Corley, managing director of Carlton Broadcasting, which is closely associated with the awards.




A MATHS LESSON IN A PIZZA HUT? WHAT'S EDUCATION COMING TO?

These children aren't being taught in a restaurant for lack of a classroom. Quite the contrary. They are working out the probability of a Pizza Hut as a Pizza Hut because it's a lot more involving than poring over pie charts in a schoolbook.

Similarly, business studies have a far more relevance to a twelve year old if your place of study is a real business.

Such as one of our thousands of offices for example. And a week spent at a busy restaurant can teach kids more about the catering trade than a term spent dry drawing behind a school desk.

Projects like these are giving thousands of school children something they can't get from schoolbooks: the chance to discover something real about the world of work.

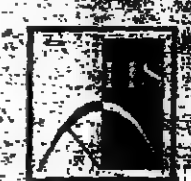


1995

## HERBERT SMITH

# THE DRAGON AWARDS 1995

## EMPLOYEE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AWARD



*Lawyers taking the concept of service into the community*

HERBERT SMITH  
LONDON  
BRUSSELS PARIS  
HONG KONG SINGAPORE

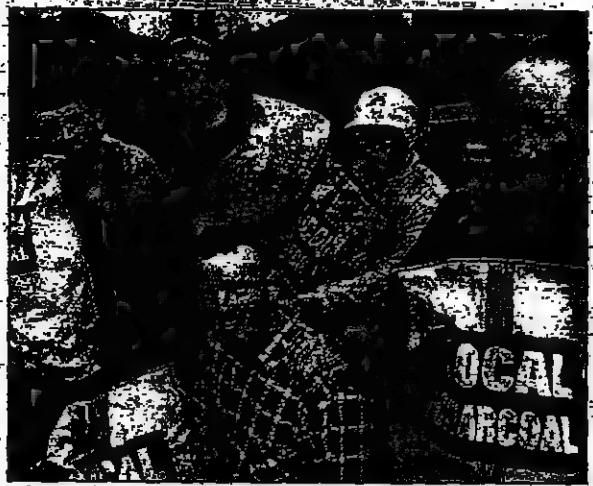
Exchange House, Finsbury Square, London EC2A 3BH



Case histories of the eight winning sponsors who receive awards and certificates for the wide-ranging projects profiled below

**Special Certificate - Best Entry From a Small Business:** Bioregional Charcoal Company presented a good example of an environmental project that is easily replicable and also produces new jobs.

The company is working with the World Wildlife Fund for Nature and B&Q to get local, British charcoal from



UK charcoal produced at a woodland craft centre

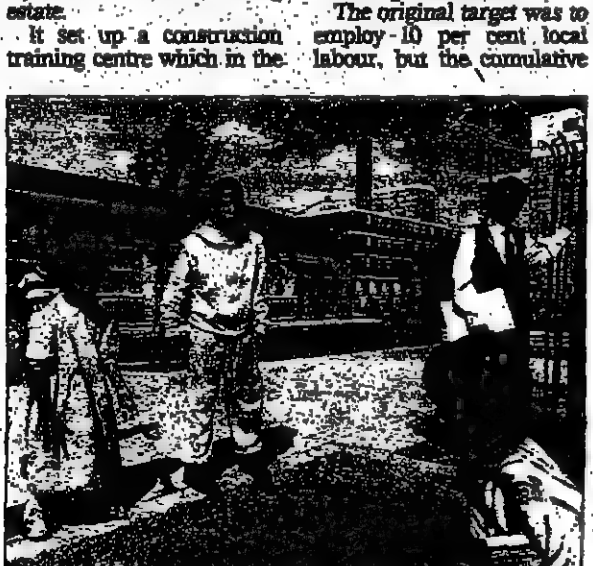
woodlands to local stores. After organising two trials in B&Q stores in 1994, a national scheme was set up in 1995. The aim of the programme was to restore the working of ancient woodlands throughout Britain; to

generate local, rural and urban employment in charcoaling and to reduce pressure on tropical forests by offering a locally produced, environment-friendly alternative.

The project has created additional income for 30 small woodland projects from Cornwall to Inverness, including woodland charities. It has also helped to restore management to neglected woods and created employment. Most importantly, it has offered a local alternative to tropical forest charcoal. The past decade has seen a big revival in British demand for charcoal, almost entirely the result of the popularity of domestic barbecues, but most of the 60,000 tonnes bought every year is imported.

The Bioregional Charcoal Company is a subsidiary of the Bioregional Development Group, a registered charity. Its director, Poonan Desai, believes that the charcoal industry's revival could restore thousands of acres of neglected woodlands.

**Community Development:** In December 1992, John Laing joined a partnership with Hackney Borough Council, east London, and a group of housing associations to undertake the regeneration of a 1960s housing estate.



Children at play on John Laing's Holly Street estate

past 20 months has provided 10,000 training weeks and 130 jobs; more than 100 trainees have attained NVQ Level 2 qualifications.

The original target was to employ 10 per cent local labour, but the cumulative

average has been more than three times that figure. Working with local schools, the company has provided on-site work experience, assisted with school projects, conducted site visits and made health and safety presentations in schools.

Residents have been closely involved in the whole regeneration project, on issues ranging from planning and design to employment and training. Many of the staff working on the site are involved in local community activities and voluntary groups. Several are governors of local schools or are represented on the boards of bodies such as the Dalston City Partnership.

Dr Richard Simmons, chief executive of Dalston City Partnership, says the company has played a role that goes well beyond that of a normal building contractor, and has demonstrated its commitment to the partnership between public, private and voluntary sectors to regenerate Hackney.



School pupils studying European food help to prepare a buffet at a Whitbread hotel before writing up the project

**Award Winner - Education & Training:** The Whitbread Education Partnership programme was launched in 1991. In September 1994 it was given greater focus and branded "Brighter Futures". The aim is to help to secure, for all young people, the education, training and personal development opportunities they

WHITBREAD PLC

need. Whitbread works alongside parents, teachers, governors and other companies in wide-ranging activities that involve at least 1,500 initiatives. The programme's priorities are:

- Work Experience - for young people at all phases.
- Development of teachers through placements in business environments.
- Projects based on the national curriculum to reflect what happens in business and industry.
- Representation by Whitbread staff on business and education consultative groups and governing bodies.

Whitbread employs the equivalent of nine full-time employees to carry out the programme. For the year ending March 1995, an estimated 4,000 employees were involved. The company invests £600,000 a year.



Using a computer makes language-learning fun

**Special Certificate - Best Entry Nominated by Voluntary Sector:** ACE (Aiming for a College Education) is a five-year, £3 million, BP initiative to raise the education aspirations and attainments of young people. It aims to give a lasting boost to the numbers who continue their education and training after school-leaving age.

It also aims to develop new ways for employers to work on education and training issues in partnership with schools and local authorities, LECs and TECs, colleges and universities.

ACE has supported a substantial number of initiatives through three local programmes in London, South

BRITISH PETROLEUM

Wales and Scotland and every project has grown out of a local need. In each area there is a BP member of staff who is the ACE director and manages the regional programme.

The ACE initiative encompasses many different programmes, including language and study skills, aimed at immigrants and refugees who were educated in their countries of origin and who wish to enter higher education in the UK, but need intensive English and advice before they can do so. Over the five-year pro-

gramme, about 200 people have successfully progressed to higher education.

In addition, ACE offers mentoring, which gives the students regular contact with people from business; research including topics under exploration such as requirements for a unified 16-plus curriculum; and community marketing and events, initiatives to improve the flow of information about further and higher education and career choice into the community.

Successful initiatives are now moving on to a national stage where they are influencing the attitudes and aspirations of a far greater number of young people.

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND

**Environment:** In May the Royal Bank of Scotland sponsored a project by the Groundwork organisation, entitled Spring Challenge. The scheme covered 20 locations. Its aim was to involve local communities in projects of social importance that also had an environmentally beneficial visual impact.

Each project involved Groundwork officials, bank staff and local residents. Altogether, more than 20,000 people took part.

The events varied in type and scale. In Cumbria, 1,500 people took part in a week-long Green Transport Challenge "to put the environment first when travelling". At the end of the week, certificates were awarded to schools, local groups and individuals judged to have made the greatest contribution.

In Hillingdon, west London, a group of children with special needs created a meadow at their school for use in teaching nature studies. In Camden, a community action day was organised to construct a public garden. The bank contributed £30,000 to the programme.



RBS helps at a village in bloom competition

**Special award - City Firm Award:** Swiss Bank Corporation initially seconded one member of staff to Business in the Community for a year in 1993, to pilot Roots & Wings Mentoring in the Community. This has been developed into a three-year rolling programme of one seconded a year.

Roots & Wings is designed to challenge perceptions and raise aspirations. The hope is that with the "roots" of confidence and self-worth, plus the "wings" of aspiration, each student will progress to great achievements.

Roots & Wings won two and a half years' funding for Deptford City Challenge on the basis of Swiss Bank Corporation's private sector leverage - £85,000 in the first year alone. Swiss Bank has continued to work closely with Deptford Green City

Challenge and steering groups. Swiss Bank's support also helped to win extra funding from General Electric's Ethos Foundation.

Rudi Boggi, the chief executive of Swiss Bank, has undertaken career talks at Deptford Green School, providing financial support for the Homework Club and visiting the school.

Swiss Bank participated in the first pilot of Roots & Wings, with 17 mentors matched to selected pupils from Deptford Green School. After a year, teachers at the school noticed some key changes in the mentored pupils. Another Swiss Bank seconded headed a programme aimed at gaining other companies' support. By March this year, nine companies and 220 mentoring pairs were involved. 64 from Swiss Bank.

**The Bromley by Bow Regeneration Initiative:** The London Partnership's £4-million project is to regenerate a semi-derelict four-



Sculpture in the park: an armchair takes shape

acre site adjacent to the Bromley by Bow Centre. The partnership of companies provided the resources for consultation, feasibility, design and construction plans, and legal and financial work.

The programme includes the building of a new community health centre which will be linked to existing activities. These include health, arts, fitness, education and community care programmes and training and enterprise. The initiative will also incorporate a refurbished park, formal gardens, performance area, playground, pool and under-fives area.

The partners involved are Royal Insurance Holdings, Linklaters & Paines, Sedgwick Group plc, Neville Russell & Co, Texaco Limited, Wyatt MacLaren, and Price Waterhouse.

# The Light at the Beginning of the Tunnel

Our business deals with the unknown and the unclear.

Out of it, we devise and deliver marketing and PR solutions for corporate community involvement issues - and nothing else.

*paperwhites...*

For details of how we deliver Dragon Award winning creativity please call Hilary Whates on 01280 822722

**Employee community involvement:** A leading firm of City of London solicitors, Herbert Smith, has set up a community action programme to support a number of organisations both financially and through voluntary help by its staff.

It is described as an outstanding example of how a firm supports and encourages staff to become involved in different aspects of voluntary work, demonstrating commitment at all levels.

In 1992, at the request of Clerkenwell Citizens Advice Bureau, it began a review of the operation of the local law centre as demand for advice was outstripping the number of advisers.

There are now 32 advisers, both trainees and qualified solicitors, and a waiting list of volunteers. Herbert Smith have also provided stationery, books and periodicals, a fax machine and a computer.

For the past year staff have spent one night a week on behalf of the Spitalfields Crypt Trust, distributing soup to homeless alcoholics. At the other end of the spectrum the firm helps to manage the London Federation of Clubs for Young People (see main picture on facing page), advising on accounts and on legal problems. There are at present ten volunteers working with five clubs, and new volunteers are recruited every six months. Herbert Smith have also made financial contributions totalling more than £5,000.

Anyone who claims that I am a dreamer who expects to transform hell into heaven is wrong. I have few illusions. There is only one thing I will not concede: that it might be meaningless to strive in a good cause.

Taken from SUMMER MEDITATIONS by Vaclav Havel, translated by Paul Wilson and published by Faber and Faber Ltd.

**SBC Warburg**

A DIVISION OF SWISS BANK CORPORATION



## Editors get younger but readers are older

Never mind his politics or his headlines: how old do you think the editor of your daily paper should be? A youthful go-getting, finger-on-the-pulse sort of age, perhaps? A middle-aged still-on-the-ball-but-with-an-eye-to-history man? Or a mature and temperate I've-seen-them-all-come-and-go-laddy type?

Fifty years ago this wasn't any sort of question. Newspaper editors were, in general, men who'd started at the bottom, worked their way up through the news desks and the lobby bar, seen action in the provinces, and, when they'd achieved a certain journalistic ripeness, been wheeled into Fleet Street and lifted gently into an editor's padded chair. When he took over the editorship of *The Sunday Times* in 1932 William Waite Hadley was 65; when he retired in 1950 he was 84.

My otherwise useless 1947 edition of *The Author and Writer's Who's Who* shows that most national newspaper editors were in their upper fifties or lower sixties and the only one to buck the elderly trend was the precocious Hugh Cudlipp, who, at 34, had already been editing *The Sunday Pictorial* for ten years. The average age of editors was more than 53.

The 1992 edition of *The Encyclopaedia of the British Press* shows that the average age of editors had dropped to a shade under 50. But less than a few years ago in 1986 the septuagenarian William Deedes was still running the *Telegraph* and the sixty-something John Junor was at the helm of the *Sunday Express*.

And now? Last week the 38-year-old Charles Moore moved from *The Sunday Telegraph* to *The Daily Telegraph* and was replaced by the identically youthful Dominic Lawson.

In the past three years most of the broadsheets have

### John Diamond reports on a paradox for the marketers

been taken over by younger men — the 42-year-old Alan Rusbridger at *The Guardian*; his contemporary Andrew Jaspert at *The Observer*; the 43-year-old John Witherow at *The Sunday Times*; the 44-year-old Ian Hargreaves at the *Independent*; and the 45-year-old Peter Stothard at *The Times*. All have replaced older men: the only exception is Peter Wilby who, at 51, replaced the marginally younger Ian



W.W. Hadley, made editor at 65; Charles Moore, appointed at 38

Jack at *The Independent on Sunday*.

What's odd about this is that the average age of editors is falling at about the same rate as the average age of readers is rising.

The readership of newspapers is getting older because young people don't read them. It is not that young people are the ones with money to spend and thus the readers whose custom those who buy newspaper advertising space are keenest to attract. Develop a paper read exclusively by children — 28-year-old working men with beer to drink and cars to buy and you have the nearest thing to a money machine.

In some papers the at-

tempt to tailor the product to the money-spending classes is merely crass: the *Daily Star*, for instance, is apparently now edited solely for these young enough to believe that hot news about Pamela Anderson should appear every day.

In other papers the attempt to attract the younger market is bizarre. Although *The Daily Telegraph*, for instance, is one of the few papers to be gaining younger readers — an increase of more than 5 per cent last year — the marketing men at Canary Wharf seem to have an odd idea of how far they can change their papers' profiles.

The Sunday title's current billboard advertising campaign seems aimed at the sort of people we called yuppies not so long ago, and when *The Sunday Telegraph Magazine* was launched last month its marketing department circulated potential advertisers with a very un-*Telegraph*-like CD-Rom which suggested that the paper's readership profile led an entirely *Mall on Sunday* sort of life.

The young don't shun individual titles because those papers have nothing to say to them, but because they consider the medium to be one that goes with work and mortgages and all the other trappings of maturity. Eventually, and when they're ready for it, they, too, will telephone the newspapers with a regular order.

Meanwhile, there are many of those who take papers for all the old reasons who find themselves bemusedly reading a press aimed at a middle-aged marketing executive's muddled idea of what youth is like. My guess is that that vision doesn't appeal to the young while managing to irritate the not-so-young.

And God alone knows what W.W. Hadley would make of it.



Everyone from Mr Clinton down claimed credit for an image that dominated press and TV. "Being President, he gets it," said his press secretary

## Oh, what an image bite!

### The Director of Production for Presidential Events triumphs again, says Martin Fletcher

This was the picture carried by most of the world's front pages yesterday and broadcast to every continent. It showed Presidents Clinton and Yeltsin sitting side by side in the sun outside President Roosevelt's old Hyde Park home in upstate New York. The American and Russian leaders were using the same wooden chairs in which FDR and Churchill plotted strategy in 1943, and gazed across the Hudson River at the spectacular autumn foliage on the hills beyond.

It is said that a picture is worth a thousand words, but this one evoked more than half a century of history. This one, stunning image suggested a return to peace and harmony after the horrors of the Second World War and terrors of the Cold War.

The facts of Monday's summit were rather more prosaic. Clinton and Yeltsin failed to resolve deep disagreements over NATO's expansion and enforcing a Bosnian peace settlement. But the picture will be remembered long after the summit's substance — or lack of it — has been forgotten.

Few could now recall what Presidents Reagan and Gorbachev discussed at their 1985 Geneva summit, but the image persists of them sitting

by a fireside as superpower relations finally began to thaw. So too does the picture of the same two men departing grim-faced from their 1986 Reykjavik summit having so nearly agreed to rid the world of nuclear weapons.

The White House was thrilled with the success of Monday's stage management, and Mike McCurry, the press secretary, joked that everyone from Mr Clinton down was claiming the credit. "Being President, he gets it," Mr McCurry swiftly added.

There is, in fact, no single presidential image-maker in this White House. Ronald Reagan had the incomparable Michael Deaver, who spent most of his waking hours dreaming up photo-opportunities for his boss. George Bush had a Las Vegas advertising man named Sig Rogich. Mr Clinton might have used his Hollywood friends Harry and Linda Thompson had they not been tarnished by the "Travelgate" scandal. He relies instead on half-a-dozen "lead advance people" who scout sites for their picture-potential. "We dream and other people rein us in,"

observes one of them, Josh King, the 30-year-old Director of Production for Presidential Events.

In 1993 they had shrubbery cut away so Bill'n'Boris could be photographed gazing across the Pacific at their Vancouver summit. During the 1994 D-Day commemorations they had Mr Clinton pensively shuffling stones on a Normandy beach. Image-making "certainly doesn't occupy our Administration with the intensity of previous Administrations, but once in a while we see the value of pictures and good choreography," says Mr King.

Mr Clinton did indeed have the idea of holding Monday's summit at Hyde Park. He had visited the home of his great Democratic predecessor within weeks of his 1993 inauguration, and during his visit to Moscow for May's VE-Day celebrations he told aides it would be a good place to take Mr Yeltsin.

In September a team of White House "advance people" led by Mr King and

Brady Williamson, a semi-retired Wisconsin lawyer, went up but it was pouring with rain and they scarcely looked outside the 35-room mansion. Two weeks ago the team returned. It was a beautiful day, the leaves were turning, and they instantly spotted what they had missed before. "The combination of sitting in the same chairs in the same spot (as Roosevelt and Churchill) made it what we Yanks would call a 'no brainer,'" said Mr McCurry.

And so, on Monday, Mr Clinton greeted Mr Yeltsin with a beaming as the Russian descended from his US military helicopter, led him up a dappled, tree-lined drive to the mansion's front door and, after showing him a few mementoes of Roosevelt's wartime relationship with Stalin, ushered him straight into the back.

In their moment of triumph Mr King and his colleagues had one last score. As a battery of cameras focused on the two leaders a fly began buzzing around Mr Yeltsin and Mr Clinton tried to swat it. To Mr King's immense relief the picture of the two Presidents chatting the course of history proved far more compelling to the world's picture editors than one of Mr Clinton apparently swiping Mr Yeltsin.

TO ADVERTISE  
CALL: 0171 481 4481

## MEDIA SALES & MARKETING

FAX: 0171 782 7826

### Sales Consultants and Account Managers

#### Domestic and International Healthcare VARIOUS UK LOCATIONS

CIGNA is one of the world's largest and most experienced healthcare financing specialists, supplying innovative healthcare products to a select list of blue chip companies. Our reputation for excellence in all aspects of our business is largely due to hard work, commitment and exceptional people. In recognition of this, we have created an environment where our staff enjoy an unparalleled variety of opportunity which only a global operation of our magnitude can provide.

Our progressive and visionary approach has now created a demand for like-minded top flight sales professionals to join our sales team.

#### SALES CONSULTANTS

Working in conjunction with our Underwriting and Customer Service departments, you will be responsible for the identification of potential new clients, establishing relationships and, ultimately, the sale of our extensive range of products. Success will require a combination of highly acute commercial acumen and the credibility to define the advantages of dealing with CIGNA in an extremely competitive market.

#### ACCOUNT MANAGERS

You will, in a lot of ways, embrace many of the characteristics of our sales consultants. In addition, however, you will demonstrate a proven track record in retaining and cultivating existing client bases.

Of graduate calibre, you will ideally, but not essentially, have at least 3 years' industry experience in either an international or domestic environment. Above all, you must be bright, focused and a high achiever with a very successful sales record. Top flight sales professionals can expect to receive extremely competitive salaries and benefits packages.

To apply, please forward a comprehensive CV, in complete confidence, to: Mike Fitzgerald, CIGNA Services UK Ltd, Employee Benefits Division, PO Box 42, Greenock, Renfrewshire PA15 1AB.



CIGNA International

**EXCELLENT SALES/RENTAL NEGOTIATOR**  
2 individuals aged 23-30, with sound academic background required. Experience in sales and negotiation essential. Must be able to work independently and to a high standard. Tel: 0171-722-4364

**TRAINEE MANAGERS**  
2 individuals aged 23-30, with sound academic background required. Experience in sales and negotiation essential. Must be able to work independently and to a high standard. Tel: 0171-722-4364

**ALL Box number replies should be addressed to:**  
BOX 1000  
City The Times  
Newspapers  
P.O. BOX 3003  
Virginia Street  
London E1 8QA

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
Required by old-established Trade Association (based in London) to work in sales over time existing building. E.O. Required, responsible person, able to deal with complex political and media enquiries - as well as the everyday routine of running the Association. Some bookkeeping experience preferred but not essential. £25,000 + per annum - responsible according to experience and ability. Applications and C.V. please to: Mrs M. H. 0171-722-4364, London, E1 8QA.

**TRAINEE PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR**  
DESIRE - DRIVE - DETERMINATION - Qualities crucial for this position. Hard work, long hours, hectic environment and great fun. Begin on the learning curve with the most forward thinking, progressive agent in central London. Opportunities exist for the ambitious candidates to move through the ranks to senior positions. Please offer the skills, you must provide the desire to succeed. Home life is London. Aged 19-24. Initial salary £10k - £12k, during training plan cut, thereafter indefinitely increased depending on ability. Ref LPA. Tel: 0171-722-4364.

### SALES & MARKETING DIRECTOR

Project Engineering Company

USA Based.

Our client, Lucas Assembly & Test Systems, is an internationally based business unit of Lucas Industries plc. It is a world leader in the supply of automated production assembly and test equipment to the automotive and other industries. With headquarters in Buckingham and plants located in the United States and Germany, its annual turnover is approximately £60m.

Its success is based on its ability to provide total systems solutions harnessing the very latest engineering methodologies. Much of this expertise is deployed in one-off projects in the £100k to £5m range.

The key role of Sales & Marketing Director has been created to bring together all the company's world-wide commercial operations. Reporting to the Director & General Manager, it offers the full scope of determining business development strategy and direct responsibility for the operations to implement this through sales, marketing, product group management, bid and customer support activities internationally.

Based in North America, it is a significant strategic and management role, requiring considerable commercial experience, preferably gained in an engineering environment. Interfacing with customers at senior levels in an international marketplace, it will interest those with a strong personality, enthusiasm and high energy levels.

The salary and remuneration package will reflect the importance of the role to the company.

Please write with full CV and salary details to Derek Richards at "The Mailings", Mount Road, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY8 1EZ. Tel: (01384) 397555. Fax: (01384) 379996. Please quote ref: 241/STDR.



### MARKETING ASSISTANT

Required by ground-breaking new media company. 3 month contract - possible permanent post. Immediate vacancy. Suit recent graduate with sharp visual appreciation. Mainstream marketing/copy-writing experience NOT required, but common sense and energy ESSENTIAL.

FAX ONE PAGE CV and ONE example of recent work to: Ian Parkinson on 0171 267 2006.

### EXPORT SALES MANAGER

Small company requires a person with extensive knowledge of purchasing and supply within refining, petrochemical and gas industries to develop new business. Applicants should have a degree, at least five years relevant experience, and fluency in English and Farsi as the post requires regular travel to Iran. Salary dependent on experience and productivity.

Applications should be forwarded to: 'Tekram International Ltd', 68 Ebbw Road, Apsley, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP3 9QR



PERSONNEL & MANAGEMENT CONSULTING

INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

Our client is a market leader in office based paper handling equipment. Their continued expansion into the emerging markets of Central & Eastern Europe has created this new role:

### Business Development Manager Central & Eastern Europe

A background in dealership appointments and development is essential, as is key account management experience, gained in a business to business environment. Exposure to the markets of Central & Eastern Europe would be a distinct advantage.

Extensive travel throughout these markets will demand a strong and determined character with the ability to lead, assist, train and develop people of diverse cultures. Fluency in a second European language and knowledge of another Central European language would be highly beneficial.

A comprehensive remuneration package is available for the right person, which includes an excellent salary + commission, company car, pension and other benefits.

Applications should be sent, enclosing a current CV, to Paul McIntyre at P&M International Limited, 38-40 Bell Street, Bexley, Surrey SE22 7BA. Tel: 01753 226111 Fax: 01753 226136

### Experienced Cabin Crew

required for new Private Jet Based in the U.S.A. Accommodation and car provided. Three weeks holiday and top salary paid in U.S. Dollars.

Send C.V. and photograph to:

The Personnel Director

Business Export Limited

4th Floor, 58/59 Margaret Street

London W1N 7JG



### Are you Creative, Dedicated, Enthusiastic and an excellent Communicator?

Work term time only. Selling the recording of children's music in schools.

- An exciting new project with no competition.

- Earn a generous daily fee.

- Own car and telephone essential.

- An educational or musical background is an advantage although full training will be given.

Interviews will be held locally. In the first instance please write with full details to:

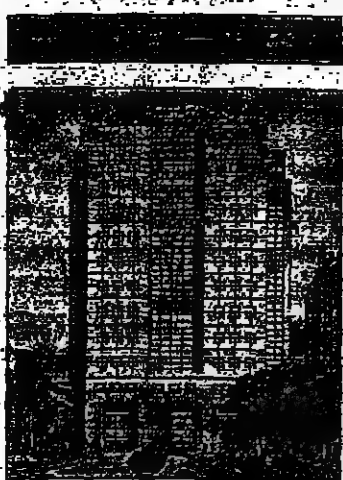
Miss S. Duthie, The Smart Partnership, Britannic House, 47 Albert Road, Colne, Lancashire BB8 0BP

0171 481 4481



# Deals still ride on a seesaw

**Christopher Warman says developers are pinning hopes on the recovery**



Belfast Hilton: 187 bedrooms

## Boost for Belfast

HILTON International is to open the new Belfast Hilton, a 187-bedroom hotel on the Laganbank site, which is being developed by a joint venture company formed by Ewart plc and the Laganbank Group plc. Work should be finished by spring 1998. And Ewart, after a decision to centralise all its Belfast offices, is buying a 150,000 sq ft headquarters building. A concert-exhibition hall is already being built.

Craig Coran, a director of Colliers Erdman Lewis, which is advising Ewart on four remaining plots on the site, says "Laganbank is the most significant development of its nature in Belfast, and probably in the whole of Northern Ireland." Investment at Laganbank now totals £100 million.

ARCADES, the first shopping centre in the UK developed by the Dutch company MAB, opens tomorrow already 75 per cent let.

To finance the 165,000 sq ft covered centre — in Ashton-under-Lyne, Greater Manchester — MAB devised a package of more than £30 million from its own and other Dutch sources. Joint letting agents are Donaldsons and Chestnall & Mortimer.

THE Yorkshire Electricity Group has been granted detailed planning approval to develop the first phase of a £60 million office scheme in Leeds. The scheme has a frontage to the River Aire and is five minutes' walk from the city centre. Phase 1 is a 50,000 sq ft building valued at more than £12 million. Future phases will provide space for up to a further 200,000 sq ft of offices. The Leeds-based Abbey Hanson Rowe Partnership is designing the building.

The seesaw movement of the London property market, as it tilts towards recovery continued in the third quarter of the year. The City's healthy momentum was balanced by lagging demand in the West End.

St Quintin's autumn reports show that office take-up in the West End and midtown markets has run well below the 1994 quarterly average. Total take-up in the year to September 1995, at 3.5 million sq ft, was 31 per cent lower than in the previous 12 months.

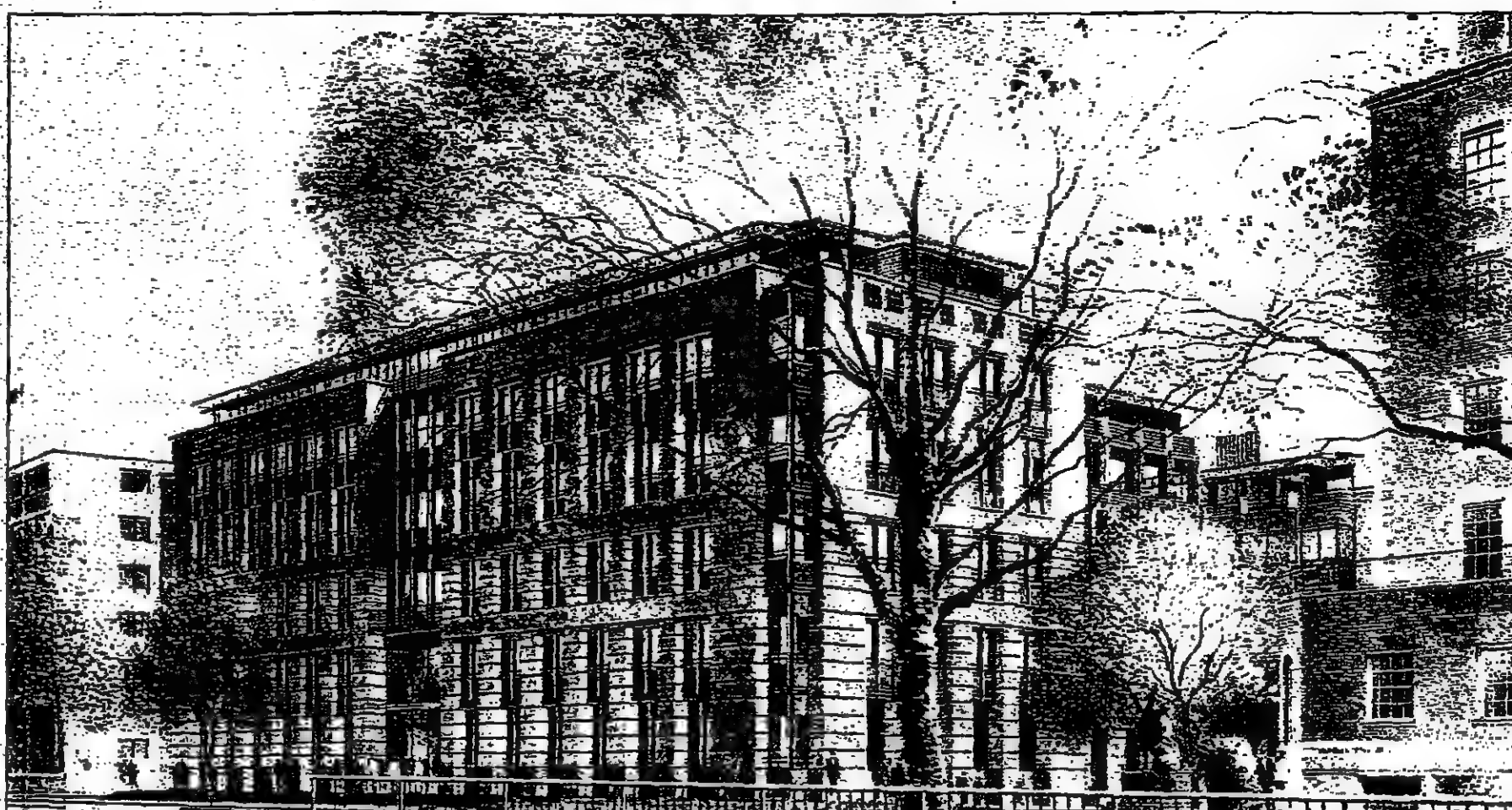
Demand in these areas is sluggish as the previously expected rental growth has failed to happen. New developments are therefore scarce. Only about 1.1 million sq ft of office space is under construction, of which 200,000 sq ft is due for completion by the end of 1995. This includes Great Portland Estates' 85,000 sq ft in Great Portland Street, London & Edinburgh Trust's 65,000 sq ft Knightsbridge scheme and Arcon's 33,000 sq ft Pall Mall development.

Peter Damesick, St Quintin's research head, said that tenant demand in the West End seemed to have moved in line with the slow pace of the national economy. He added: "The City market, on the other hand, continues to be driven more by the requirements of international financial occupiers."

St Quintin reports in the third quarter that there was a take-up of 1.5 million sq ft of good quality office space in core City locations. This was boosted by a large pre-letting, involving 350,000 sq ft at Winchester House, London Wall, to house Deutsche Bank/Morgan Grenfell's combined operation. The bank is taking an equity stake.

Mr Damesick said that further substantial pre-letting activity in the City was likely to follow. "The development cycle in the rest of the 1990s will be far more occupier-led than in the past," he said.

Citicorp has now made public its intention to acquire a building of 400,000 sq ft in the medium term. And the prospective requirements of other leading financial occupiers



MEPC has begun its Petershill scheme at One Carter Lane, opposite St Paul's Cathedral, at an estimated cost of £27 million for the 125,000 sq ft building. The scheme also includes One Old Change Court, Queen Victoria Street, which MEPC has sold for £9 million to Nissho Iwai Europe. The site will be developed as Nissho Iwai's London headquarters

such as ABN AMRO Bank, Dresdner Bank, Schroders, Merrill Lynch and Swiss Banking Corporation, suggest growing interest in pre-letting opportunities.

Knight Frank & Rutley's latest statistics confirm the upward trend in the City. Stephen Newbold, associate partner, commented:

"Though take-up can show considerable volatility from one quarter to the next, the overall increase on 1994 levels is encouraging."

The vacancy rate for space in the City is gradually falling. Total supply now stands at 8.3 million sq ft, equivalent to an 8.8 per cent vacancy rate. In the City core,

vacancy levels have fallen to 7.5 per cent, compared with 10.8 per cent in the City fringe.

The shortage of new, large units remains. Only five modern properties in the entire City market offer more than 100,000 sq ft for immediate occupation, and only one — Eschequer Court, St Mary Axe — is

a self-contained new development in a central location. However, KFR says, speculative development completions, though low compared with the late 1980s, are due to increase from mid-1996.

Mr Newbold said: "City rental growth and construction levels in the late 1990s will also be influenced by the strategy adopted by the International Property Consortium towards the timing and scale of further development at Canary Wharf, which it acquired this month." The consortium hopes to complete the Canary Wharf deal before the end of the year. About a million sq ft of space is still to be let.

## New hope for those forced to sell

THE system of compensation for compulsory purchase should be improved to give the occupier a better deal, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors says in Compensation for Compulsory Acquisition, published this month.

Tony Chase, RICS compensation spokesman, says: "A fairer, more efficient system of compensation would bring economic benefits to the country by speeding up

the construction of large infrastructure projects." A person whose property is compulsorily acquired should be compensated, he adds, not only for the value of the property, but also for any inconvenience. "Often," he says, "this is not the case."

The report recommends: • That an additional allowance over and above market value be paid in all cases in recognition of

the disruption and the often unquantifiable losses that compulsory purchase invariably involves. • A supplementary allowance should be paid to the occupier of agricultural and business property when only part of his or her land is taken.

• Owner-occupiers should no longer be required to make efforts to sell their properties on the open market before being able to serve a

blight notice, requiring the relevant authority to buy the property. • The current rateable value limit, which prevents many commercial property owner-occupiers from serving a blight notice, should be lifted.

• Investors as well as owner-occupiers should be able to serve a blight notice. • The report is available from RICS Books, £5 + £1.95 P&P (0171-222 7000).



### COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

#### PROPERTY ASIA SHOW '96

SINGAPORE 11 - 14 JAN  
MALAYSIA 14 - 17 MAR

One of the largest and well advertised event in Asia. An excellent opportunity for property developers, building materials manufacturers and furnishing companies to SELL and meet increasingly affluent and outward looking buyers and investors.

Exhibition space US\$ 4,050 - 4,950 for standard booth available on a first come first served basis.

Enquiries please fax: 44+ (0171) 911 0238

#### INDUSTRIAL UNITS FOR SALE

DESIRABLE  
3 Office units and production area, approx 10,000 sq ft. Good location, parking, NVA.  
Tel 0171 624 1741

#### SERVICED OFFICES TO LET

GARDNER INDUSTRIAL ESTATE  
KENT HOUSE LANE  
BECKENHAM  
Approximately 8,000 sq ft. New available at very low cost. Might consider splitting.  
Contact: Harold Levi & Co.  
Tel 0281 556 9211  
Fax 0281 539 8549

#### INDUSTRIAL UNITS TO LET

PROPERTY FOR SALE OR TO LEASE  
SOUTH LANCE  
Unit property to truck stop, fuel, car wash and car, but not only truck stop, but also car wash and fuel station. 100 yards off A1.  
Tel 01476 861200

#### OFFICE PROPERTY FOR SALE

WIMBLEDON LONDON SW19  
Approx 1,200 sq ft, on 2 floors with 4 car parking spaces in a residential area.  
£29,950 freehold  
Christopher St James Plc  
0181 545 6591

#### NATRASS GILES

##### TYBURN ROAD (A26)

185,000 sq ft on 6 acres  
Close to A65 Spaghetti Junction, 28th acres and craneage  
FOR SALE or TO LET £1 p.s.f.

##### REDDITCH

Broadwood Road  
Lakeland Industrial Estate  
20,950 sq ft, 3rd Area  
TO LET

##### WALSALL

Blackwell Road  
59,700 sq ft Glass fronted Unit, Potential for redevelopment  
FOR SALE/TO LET

##### ALCESTER

Tything Road  
Athen Forest Trading Estate, 7,330 sq ft  
On approx 1 acre  
FOR SALE/TO LET

##### WOLVERHAMPTON

LAND FOR SALE  
4.5 acres approx  
Good access, funding maybe available  
Industrial area

##### DUDLEY

6,530 sq ft  
WORKSHOP/GARAGE  
with extensive forecourt area. Prominent position on Southalls Lane/Stafford Street  
TO LET

##### WALSALL

OFFICES  
Up to 5,220 sq ft  
Town centre location  
To Let, May Sell

##### WATERLINKS

LAND FOR SALE  
1.34 acres approx.  
Adjoining Aston Cross business village

##### WOLVERHAMPTON

LAND FOR SALE  
4.5 acres approx  
Good access, funding maybe available  
Industrial area

### OFFICE PROPERTY TO LET

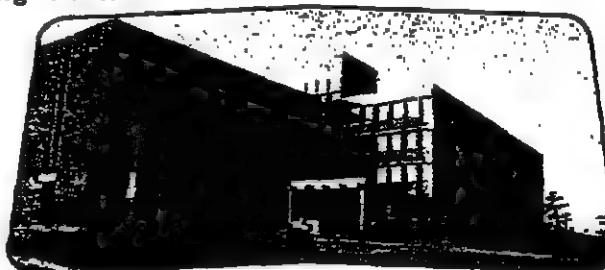
If you're thinking about relocating your company, then we think you ought to know about

## South Kesteven

IT'S THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT DRIVE YOU

Springfield House, Springfield Park, which is a major part of the wide range of economic and business opportunities and the many advantages that South Kesteven has to offer.

Not least is the very location alongside the A1 and within 5 minutes drive of the main London to Edinburgh east coast line. Other major centres such as Peterborough, Leicester, Nottingham and Lincoln are all within 40 miles drive, coupled with East Midlands International Airport nearby, the accessibility and value for money offered by South Kesteven is difficult to match. Open your eyes to the opportunities in South Kesteven.



## Grantham

YOUR WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY

For further information contact:  
Ian Crockett, Economic Development Centre,  
South Kesteven District Council, St Peter's Hill, Grantham,  
Leicestershire NG31 6PZ  
Tel: 01476 591591 Fax: 01476 591610

### OFFICE PROPERTY TO LET

#### Black Eagle Square

#### WESTERHAM

Near Sevenoaks



New Headquarters  
Office Building  
5,030 sq. ft. approx  
To Let

01732 740000  
01732 740000  
01732 740000

#### HARVARD

#### MANAGED OFFICES

LONDON

READING

NEWBURY

Business Space

Profile & Communications

Business Support Services

Access to Business Centres

World-wide

Ref: H.01.15

0800 911000

For details

### INVESTMENTS FOR SALE

#### Spitalfields E1

Victorian Warehouse Premises with Residential Conversion Potential

27,000 sq. ft.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Tarn & Tarn

Tel: 0171-263 2911

## PROPERTY IN RECEIVERSHIP

Looking for nursing homes, hotels, retail, leisure, development, industrial, land or investment property? There are hundreds of properties in the hands of receivers available at LESS than market prices. Every month we provide exclusive access to this information. Using your fax machine handset, dial this number and press start when prompted.

0331 40 50 41

This service is charged at £1.50 / minute. Problems with your fax? Call our 24 hr helpline on 0171 723 6767. An SFC service

### INVESTMENTS FOR SALE

#### ALDERSHOT, HANTS

#### BUSY FAST FOOD RESTAURANT

Full A3 usage, 28 covers, full ventilation, 3 storey / 100 sq ft approx. Lease 12 years remaining. Rent £150k p.a.  
Retirement Sale.  
Price £15,000 For Quick Sale  
Tel 01372 743033  
Mobile 0973 541 504

#### GUERNSEY

Two houses, 18 bedrooms, 18 bathrooms, pool part-oc.  
£495,000  
01481 39339



**Moons sets** 5:43 pm  
**Moons rises** 8:07 am  
**Mercurius** 4:52 pm to 4:58 am  
**Venerance** 5:12 pm to 7:01 am



## ARTS 37-39

The babies who sing before they can talk

## HOMES 41

A look at property where Liz Hurley may be buying

## SPORT 42-48

Craig Quinnell takes up the family mantle

TELEVISION  
AND  
RADIO  
Pages 46, 47

# THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 25 1995

Insurer takes on traditional home loan providers in fight for market share

## Pru to offer telephone banking

BY PATRICIA TEHAN  
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE Prudential is to enter retail banking, offering deposit and home loan services by telephone as a rival to banks and building societies.

The UK's largest life insurance and investments group is seeking a banking licence and plans to spend £70 million over the next two years on equipment, offices and staff training.

The move highlights the increasingly aggressive and competitive nature of the UK financial services market, as banks, building societies and insurance companies battle for market share.

The announcement was made just four days after City regulators decided not to take disciplinary action against the Pru over its controversial approach to selling personal pen-

sions, after an 18-month investigation.

The Pru has appointed Michael Harris, former chief executive of First Direct, Midland's telephone banking operation, to head its banking operations. Mr Harris set up First Direct but left Midland in 1991 to become chief executive of Mercury Communications, the phone operator owned by Cable and Wireless.

Peter Davis, chief executive, said: "We think this is the best way of being competitive in the mortgage and deposit-taking business for us."

He said the use of the telephone linked to computers gave the Pru a low-cost operation which, linked into its 6,500-strong salesforce, would enable it to build market share.

He said the Pru has been handing over £1 billion to building societies and banks each year "free of charge".

He said the building societies and banks were all setting up life companies. "We are becoming a bancassurer," he said.

The move does not necessarily mean the Pru has abandoned ambitions to buy a building society. But the new telephone and postal deposit-taking and mortgage service was "the

right thing for our customers at the moment," said Mr Davis.

He added that if the Pru were to make an acquisition, the most likely target would be a life company, as "we want to take a leading role in the changes that are taking place in our business now". The firm has already

gone some way towards simplifying its UK structure with the merger of its two retail insurance operations.

Analysts said that from shareholders' point of view, it was more cost-effective for the Pru to set up a deposit-taking and mortgage lending operation than to buy a building society. It can tap the market of maturing life policies — £1 billion a year in maturing policies is placed on deposit with banks and building societies — and match them with the demand from its customers for mortgages.

The Pru has more than six million customers in the UK, although Mr Davis refused to say, for competitive reasons, how many policies mature each year.

Its sales staff arrange about £700 million worth of mortgages a year, suiting them to customers' particular

circumstances, with a panel of lenders that include Halifax, NatWest, Bradford & Bingley, Cheltenham & Gloucester, Dunfermline, Bank of Scotland and Western Trust.

The Pru is following in the footsteps of Scottish Widows and Direct Line which have both obtained deposit-taking licences this year.

Mr Davis said the Pru had not considered the acquisition of a centralised mortgage lender. "We know exactly what we want to do. We want to set up a low-cost, very efficient operation. We do not want to take on anybody else's problems," he said.

The Pru is still waiting for formal approval from the Bank of England for a deposit-taking licence. It has held talks with the Bank and hopes to begin operating its banking business at the end of next year.

## CBI survey sounds a warning on economy

BY PHILIP BARNETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BUSINESS leaders said yesterday that a fall in UK orders and in business confidence for the first time for more than two years was a warning about the slowdown of the UK economy.

Though they insisted that the slowdown does not suggest the start of a recession in manufacturing, industry leaders acknowledge privately the risk that other key business indicators could start to fall over the next six months as demand slackens.

Leaders of the Confederation of British Industry said there was no need for any policy shift by the Government on the basis of the findings of the CBI's latest quarterly industrial trends survey, though they suggested that the next move in interest rates should be downward — though not immediately.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, should instead await the impact on the financial markets of the Budget, they said. City analysts suggested that the slowdown offered sufficient grounds for rates to be cut.

The survey of more than 1,100 manufacturing companies, covering 2 million employees and accounting for about half of the UK's manufactured exports, showed that domestic order books shrank in the three months to October. A balance of 3 per cent of companies — those reporting a decrease in orders against those recording a rise — said that UK orders had fallen for the first time since April 1993. Export orders were still rising, though at a less rapid rate, of a balance of 11 per cent. "That was enough to maintain an increase in total new orders — though the balance of 4 per cent of companies reporting a

fall marked the slowest rate for two years.

Confidence also fell, with the balance dropping from minus 3 to minus 11 per cent. This is the sharpest rate of decline since October 1992.

Andrew Buxton, chairman of Barclays Bank and the CBI's economic affairs committee, said: "The slowdown in growth indicated by the survey results is a warning signal, but does not warrant over-reaction." He insisted that the conditions for medium-term economic growth remained in place, adding: "Here is a slowdown — but the economy is still growing. So don't let's talk about recession."

Privately, CBI leaders accept that there is a risk that the confederation's next two quarterly surveys over the coming six months could see a number of other indicators, including output and total orders, dip into negative figures. They believe that the downturn in UK orders, probably reflecting high stock levels, could lead to further falls in domestic demand this year, and that the fall in orders could further dampen confidence.

The CBI acknowledged that there was a considerable "disappointment gap" between members' expectations and output. A CBI economic summary yesterday acknowledged this, saying that "the extent of the slowdown in manufacturing activity was not fully anticipated — particularly over the last four months."

Whitehall officials maintained that the findings of the survey were in line with sustainable economic growth, but Andrew Smith, Labour's Shadow Treasury Chief Secretary, said: "Evidence from business and the real economy is mounting up to a vote of no confidence in the Government's economic policy."



In the bag: Clive Sharpe, left, and Ian Taylor, of Legal & General, the backers, celebrate after sealing their deal

### Green bid for O&R set to fail

ATTEMPTS by Philip Green, the flamboyant former head of Amber Day, to rescue Owen & Robinson look set to fail after landlords to several of the retailer's stores refused to take back leases (Sarah Bagnall writes).

The listed company's collapse would leave little prospect of shareholders receiving any money. The shares were suspended in July at 16p, compared to an all time high of 782p in May 1991.

Attempts to save Foot-hold, O&R's sportswear retailing arm and principal asset, from collapse are now underway. It is unlikely that Alan Geyron, chief executive, and Richard Knight, finance director, will have their contracts renewed when they expire later this week. Mr Green holds £6 million of O&R's debt and 15.5 per cent of its equity.

### DTI to investigate bloodstock group

BY ROBERT MULLER

THE Department of Trade and Industry is to launch an inquiry into the affairs of Classic Bloodstock, the racing investment group that raised £3.2 million from 6,500 investors.

The DTI, which has wide-ranging legal powers to ultimately close down companies or have individual directors barred from holding office, said: "It is not our policy to confirm or deny whether we are investigating a company."

David Pipe, a director of the Jockey Club, racing's governing body, said last night: "We will await the result of any DTI investigation. We are aware of the concerns expressed about this company by investors."

Investors in Classic Bloodstock, which has been fined £1,000 by Companies House for the late filing of its first report and accounts, have in particular been concerned that

the company spent £800,000 in marketing the company and raising the initial £3.2 million. The company is to hold its first and much delayed, annual meeting on November 8 at Richmond House, Broad Street, Ely, Cambridgeshire at 9.30am.

Shareholders have also asked why profits from premium rate "information" lines promoted in company newsletters appear not to be contained in the annual accounts. These telephone lines are supposed to give information to Classic Bloodstock investors about the progress of the company's 23 horses bought for £1.5 million.

Classic Bloodstock, a separate company, Classic Bloodstock II, raised money through mailing glossy brochures to millions of private investors who bought shares in privatisation issues.

### Managers' Golden Wonder

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

GOLDEN WONDER, the crisps and pot noodles company, has been bought by its management in a deal worth £68 million.

The sale by Dalgety was clinched yesterday after a team led by Clive Sharpe, chief executive of Golden Wonder, paid £54.6 million for the business with an agreement to invest £13.4 million of working capital.

Dalgety has been looking to sell the business for some time as it has shifted out of consumer foods after the purchase of Quaker's European Petfoods. But buyers for the snacks business, which has 2,100 employees at four sites, have proved scarce.

Mr Sharpe said: "Golden Wonder has a proud past and an equally promising future."

In the year to the end of June, Golden Wonder snack sales totalled £150.7 million.

Tempos, page 28

### Panel beating

The Government has rejected calls for an overhaul of the system under which Britain's utilities are regulated. The Government says that use of a regulatory panel, rather than a single director-general, "would be likely to slow the regulatory process".

### Dollar bill

Anthony Harris looks at the implications of the near-perfect \$100 bill forgeries for the performance of the American currency. Foreign demand for American dollars is already falling markedly.

Page 29

## Blow for names as court backs agents

BY SARAH BAGNALL

SEVERAL thousand Lloyd's names were dealt a severe blow yesterday when a High Court judge ruled that Lloyd's agents could forcibly collect up to £300 million in cash from those names refusing to pay their debts to the insurance market. Names immediately promised to appeal against the judgment.

The implication of the ruling is that 350 names will be served with writs later this month by Dobb Lupton Broomhead, debt collectors acting on behalf of the Lloyd's agents. Philip Holden, head of Lloyd's debt recovery programme, said the judgment

"represents an unambiguous warning to those who won't pay their Lloyd's losses". He reiterated that those who can't pay their losses will not face legal action.

The writs are for names owing money to syndicates that are not involved in legal actions. Lloyd's of London estimates there are 11,000 names who owe £800 million, but part of that is not recoverable because the syndicates are involved in legal action.

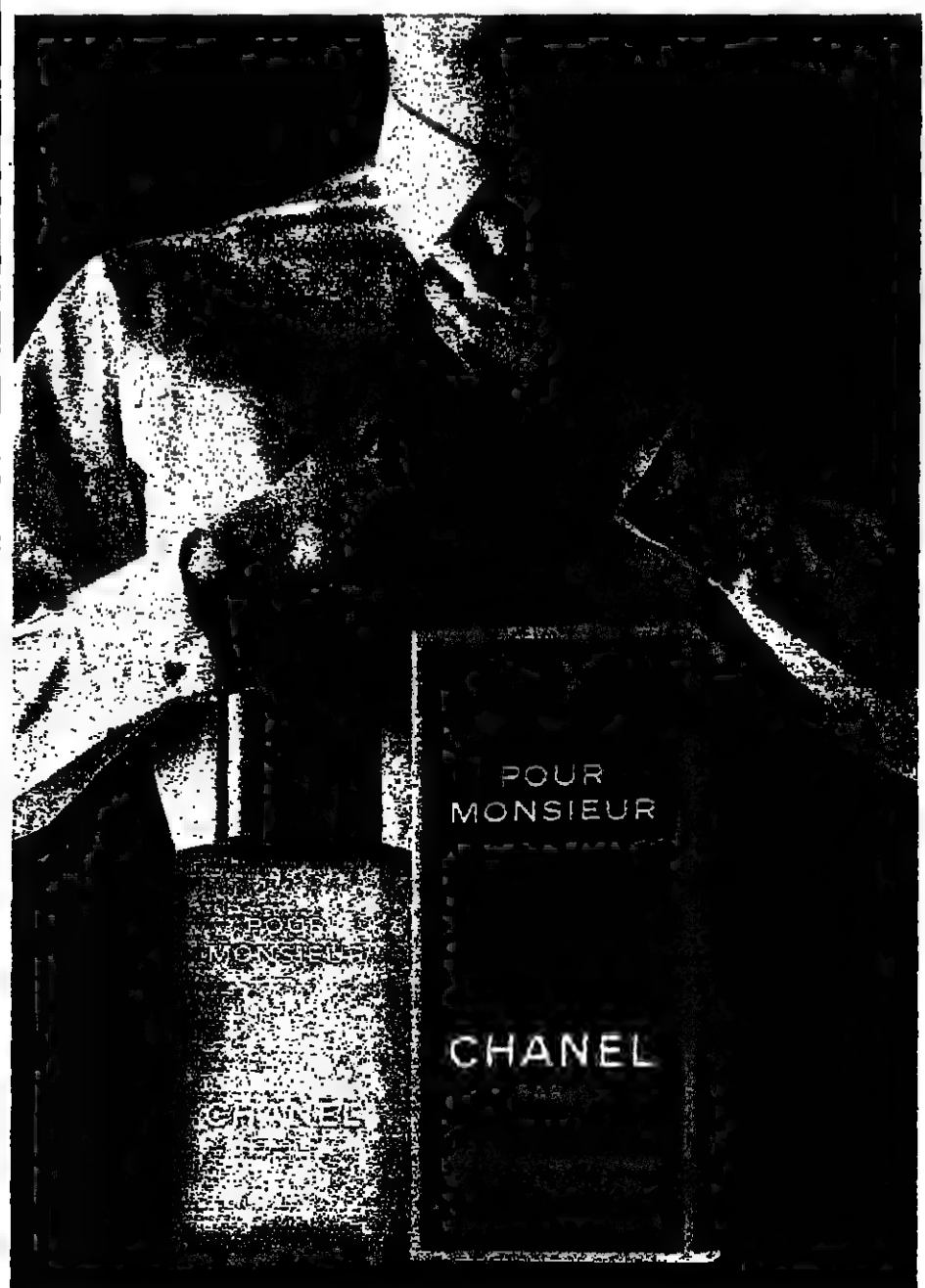
David Rowland, Lloyd's chairman, said: "I am very pleased to note that the judgment affirms so unequivocally what we have always

believed to be the cornerstone of the Lloyd's policy."

Mr Justice Rix, the judge, ruled that Lloyd's agents were legally in their rights to enforce a "pay-now, sue-later" clause in names' contracts. The names argued that they should not have to pay cash calls if legal action against their agents was in the pipeline. Agents have never enforced the clause, but, earlier this year, Lloyd's warned agents that they would be deemed "not fit or proper" to continue operating in the market if they failed to pursue all courses of action available to collect debts from names.

Susan Dingwall, a partner at Dobb Lupton Broomhead, said: "This is a significant ruling which will be welcomed not only by the Lloyd's agency community but also by those names who have been paying their losses and by potential investors in the Lloyd's market."

The "pay-now, sue-later" hearing was a test case brought by Lloyd's. It involved Marchant & Elliot, an underwriting agency, and Dr Andrew Higgins, a Lloyd's name who owes £10,000. The ruling enables Lloyd's to demand summary judgments against those refusing to pay.



POUR MONSIEUR  
ELEGANCE IS TIMELESS

# CHANEL



Rowland: pleased by ruling



# Labour 'will not rush to bring in business laws'

By Philip Bassett  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BUSINESS was reassured yesterday when Labour pledged that if elected it will not move quickly to introduce new companies legislation. Labour is trying to increase its support among business, and in a series of conference speeches, the Party's leaders are seeking not just to reassure them that Labour can be trusted by business but that it can work well with it.

Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, will tomorrow emphasise to business leaders the importance of Labour of business ethics — although ministers insist that Labour has little, if any, appeal to industry.

Stuart Bell, the Labour Shadow Trade and Industry Minister, yesterday told a Fabian Society business conference in London that business could trust new Labour, although he accepted publicly that small business leaders would be unlikely to vote Labour at the next general election.

He said that Labour's new appeal to business was not just about trying to garner votes: "We understand that a small businessman is not likely by preference to vote Labour. That's not the issue."

"But we see small business as essential to creating jobs in the economy — and that's very important to us and to Britain."

Emphasising the importance to Labour now of such issues as deregulation, he made it clear that, if elected, Labour would not be rushing in, during its first year in office, to

moves that might affect business without full consultation.

He mentioned specifically that Labour would not move quickly to a new Companies Act, to legislation dealing with Lloyds or to new laws governing accountancy — all areas in which business has been concerned that an incoming Labour government would want swiftly to introduce new legal provisions.

Professor David Storey, director of the centre for small and medium-sized enterprises at Warwick University, urged any future government to help small business by reducing the emphasis on deregulation, training, information and advice and using the tax system to affect small business operations.

Nick Brittain, chief accountant of Barclays Bank, said a government should introduce a new ministry for small business in order to draw together the range of small business issues currently scattered across a large number of Whitehall departments.

## Zeneca shares dip on sales disappointment

SHARES of Zeneca slumped yesterday as investors expressed disappointment over the bioscience company's sales growth. Group sales for the first nine months of the year rose 8 per cent to £3.4 billion. Sales of agrochemicals were 13 per cent ahead at £1.3 billion while pharmaceutical products gained 6 per cent to £1.6 billion. The gains were entirely due to stronger sales. "Good volume growth has been maintained, but pricing pressures remain in some European markets," Zeneca said.

Although the figures were roughly in line with forecasts, analysts said they were not impressive enough to fuel the rally in the sector. Zeneca shares fell 7p to £11.89. Shares of Glaxo Wellcome, which on Monday announced that it had reached an out-of-court settlement on a patent infringement suit in the US, gained 9p to 857p. The rise comes on top of a 52p gain the day before.

## United climbs to record

UNITED AIRLINES reported record profits for the third quarter, substantially strengthening its position if it decides to bid for USAir, the carrier that put itself up for sale recently. Increased efficiency and attracting more "high yield" customers helped to push the three-month profit to \$243 million, compared with only \$82 million in the third quarter of last year. Revenues rose from \$3.8 billion to \$4.1 billion. USAir's financial problems have forced it to look for a stronger partner. However, it is 24.6 per cent owned by BA, which is known to be sceptical of United's ownership structure. The company is largely owned by its workforce.

## British Gas 'damaged'

BRITISH GAS is more unpopular than ever and gives poor value for money, according to a survey by Mintel International, the market researcher. The study targeted public esteem for large companies. It showed that a series of recent developments, including chief executive Cedric Brown's pay rise and the application of VAT on domestic fuel, have damaged the company's reputation. The survey asked people to rate 26 household-name companies in order of preference in five categories. In the value-for-money class British Gas slumped in popularity from 37 per cent in 1993 to 14 per cent this year. Boots, the chemist, came top in four of the five categories.

## Trust raises dividend

DUNEDIN'S Edinburgh Investment Trust yesterday raised its interim payout by nearly 7 per cent to 3.25p, from 3.05p, after unveiling an 11.8 per cent increase in the net asset value per share to 357.7p. The trust manager said that there had been a number of portfolio adjustments in the past six months with fixed interest stocks, being reduced through the sale of £20 million of gilts and the proceeds used to repay commercial paper borrowings. Exposure to international equities was scaled back and an extra £43 million invested in the UK, predominantly in smaller companies.

## Tax levels hurt Citicorp

CITICORP reported a fall in third-quarter earnings to \$877 million, 2 per cent down from a year ago, as a rise in costs and tax levels dampened the bank's performance. Before tax, the bank's earnings were up 10 per cent. Revenues rose 9 per cent to \$4.98 billion from \$4.57 billion as most areas showed little change on last year's third quarter. Chemical Bank, soon to become the largest US bank after its merger with Chase Manhattan, boosted its quarterly earnings to \$477 million from \$439 million. Wells Fargo, the San Francisco bank, made a quarterly profit of \$261 million, up from \$217 million.

## Reassurance over Crest

PRIVATE investors who use Crest, the new electronic stock market settlement system, were yesterday reassured by Angela Knight, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, that people who input instructions will have to be authorised under the Financial Services Act. Mrs Knight said that investor protection was an essential element of the new system. Mrs Knight added that investors would be able to use Crest "in the sure knowledge that the people who access the system on their behalf are properly authorised".

## Boxmore soars 46% despite rising costs

HIGHER exports and an expanded product range helped Boxmore International, the packaging group based in Northern Ireland, to a 46.1 per cent advance in first-half profits in spite of a "substantial" increase in raw material costs (Philip Pangalos writes).

Pre-tax profits advanced to £5.48 million in the six months to June 30, against £3.75 million last time, as turnover, boosted by acquisition, expanded by 45.8 per cent to £33.7 million. The company continued to benefit from its focus on niche markets in the packaging industry, as well as from investment in the latest plant and technology.

The dividend is raised to 1.62p (1.375p), payable on December 5, from earnings of 13.2p (10.9p) a share.



More boxes from Boxmore: Harold Ennis, chairman, reported expanded product range by the west Belfast company

## Rentokil explains US chief's departure

By Colin Narkborough

CLIVE THOMPSON, chief executive of Rentokil, the environmental and property services group, denied yesterday that the removal of Michael Holmes, as its American regional director, augured bad news about the US business.

He said the company sought and secured the resignation of the head of its American operations because it did not consider him up to the task of managing the enlarged business there.

Although Mr Holmes was asked to clear his desk the week before last, the company only announced his departure this Monday after news of his leaving appeared in *The Times*.

Mr Thompson said that conditions concerning Mr Holmes' departure had not been resolved earlier but that he "is resigning" and will be replaced by Roger Payne, a UK regional director.

Rentokil was under no obligation to announce the departure to the Stock Exchange because Mr Holmes was not a director, Mr Thompson added.

To meet the group's twin targets of annual profits and earnings per share growth of 20 per cent, Mr Thompson said the company had to take action very swiftly to ensure results.

Acquisitions this year had doubled the size of the American operation of Rentokil from its £124.5 million turnover last year, but that margins in America were "lower than any other region".

The group showed an operating profit of £17 million in America last year, which represents a margin of 13.7 per cent, compared with the group's 24 per cent.

Nevertheless, Mr Thompson said that the group's ambition was to be large in North America, increasing its share of group turnover from 10-12 per cent to 20 per cent in the next five years.

Shares in Rentokil closed unchanged at 326p yesterday, with more than 470,000 shares traded.

## Government rejects calls to reform regulators

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

THE Government has rejected calls for an overhaul of the system under which Britain's utilities are regulated.

Use of a regulatory panel, rather than a single director-general, "would be likely to slow the regulatory process", the Government says.

Ministers have also refused a plea for closer collaboration between regulators of the gas and electricity industries. However, they concede that there "could be a stronger logic" for having a single regulator once opening-up of

the market to supply 26 million household customers is completed in April 1998.

The determination to stick to current practices, in spite of growing unease about their shortcomings, was made plain yesterday in the Government's response to an inquiry by backbench MPs.

The cross-party Trade and Industry Select Committee had called for extensive reform of the way utilities are controlled, including new ways of fixing prices.

But in a further rebuff to one

of its most respected critics, the Government also refused the committee's call for an investigation into the opportunities for a "sliding-scale" system of price controls.

The Government said electricity prices were a matter for Stephen Littlechild, the industry regulator.

In a separate response, Professor Littlechild focused on the MPs' endorsement of benefits achieved by wider competition. He acknowledged their concern about the difficulties of exceeding com-

petition to the household market. But in spite of widespread difficulties encountered when competition was extended to more businesses, he insisted adequate steps were in hand to ensure that opening up the country's 26 million homes to competition could be achieved successfully.

But it is clear that even the Government now acknowledges many difficulties remain to be settled if the planned transition to fully-competitive markets in both gas and electricity from April 1998 is to be achieved.

The Government said: "Changes in prospect in both the electricity and gas markets will be sufficiently complex to require the undivided attention of specialist regulators."

The statement is intended to shut the door to any prospect of reform before the next election. Any review would upset government plans to privatise British Energy, the state-owned nuclear generating company, before the next election.

## The Perfect PC for Home

Dan's new PCs are ideal for the entire family because they are fast, powerful, reliable and loaded with great features. These systems include a multimedia kit with sound card and fast CD-ROM, a fax-modem and a range of software titles to enable everyone to work, play and learn.

Windows 95  
Ready to Run



### dantum Home PC

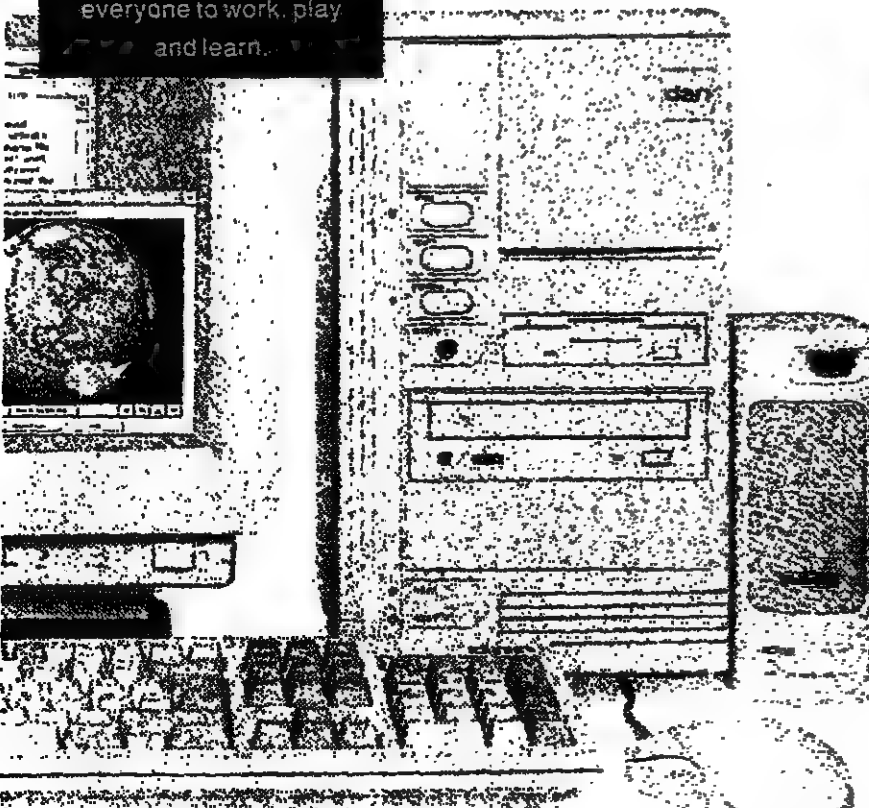
- For the most powerful home computer
- 75-90MHz Pentium Processor
- 16MB RAM
- Fast hard disk drive
- 525MB CD-ROM
- Sound system
- 1MB DRAM Cache
- 14" Super VGA Monitor
- Full multimedia
- 4x speed CD-ROM
- SoundBlaster 16w Speaker
- Connect to INTERNET
- 24.14.433333 Modem

Also included: Microsoft Works, Encarta 95 Encarta, Money & Service Software

from £1248  
for 75MHz System

Add £71 for 90MHz System

Monthly Payment Scheme Available



Delivery cost to most of UK for one system is £15. All prices include VAT at 17.5%. E 80 E. dan technology's prices, prices and specifications are subject to change without notice. All other are subject to change without notice. All other are subject to change without notice. All other are subject to change without notice.

Opening Hours/Showroom: Mon-Fri 10am-6pm

London: 0181 830 1100 Leeds: 0113 259 1200

LONDON: Ironbridge Close, Great Central Way, London NW10 0NW. FAX: 0181-830 1122  
LEEDS: 10 Feast Field, Town Street, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 4TL. FAX: 0113-239 0852  
ISRAEL: S.G.M. Computers Ltd. Tel: +972 (0)9 583536 FAX: +972 (0)9 583537

**dan**  
technology plc

Please send me full details on the dan Personal Computer Systems ADDRESS

DAY-TIME TEL. NO.

FAX NO.

NAME

COMPANY

## With better data on Far East trade, Marco would have had time for polo.



## How's your game going?

Why play around with international data from dozens of different sources, when you can get all you need from one supplier? Our database includes market data from 50 countries, economic data from 150, forex, interest rates and indices from 27, and company accounts from 24. In familiar Windows<sup>®</sup> format, it's easy to access, manipulate and integrate with your own data and produce documents in your own house style. Call 0171 324 9550 and Carol Nash will tell you how to get Datastream<sup>®</sup> on your team.

**D A T A S T R E A M**  
IN DEPTH · IN CONTEXT · INTERNATIONAL



□ Pru sets out its mortgage stall □ Benefits of an Australian deal □ Recs ponder a further Grid delay

## A Prudent waiting game

THE last time the Prudential decided on a bold new change of direction and a multi-million pound investment, it cost shareholders £340 million. That was the eventual write-off from the much-regretted foray into estate agencies.

It did not cost the Pru a chief executive, however. That took a £200,000 profit from share options exercised shortly before the group's row with the regulatory authorities degenerated into open warfare and a damning SIB report into the industry's real black hole of the 1990s, the mis-selling of pensions to hundreds of thousands of customers.

That episode, rather than any silly diversification into the housing market, which was in any case duplicated by many other big financial services outfits, was what cost the Pru much of its good name, built up by generations of bicycling door-to-door salesmen. The pensions mis-selling, the departure of the overbearing Mick Newmarch as chief executive, and yesterday's announcement of ambitious plans in banking and mortgage provision are all inextricably and intriguingly linked.

The Bank of England is careful just who gets a licence to hold deposits, although former investors in BCCI might think it is not careful enough. One might speculate whether such a licence

would have been forthcoming if Mr Newmarch were still at the helm. His departure in January, cited his difficult relationship with the regulators, but his position was not helped by questions asked by the Stock Exchange into his share options, which the company found were exercised according to the correct procedure.

His departure cleared the way for last Friday's decision, after an 18-month investigation, by City regulators to take no action over pensions mis-selling, a ruling widely condemned as a whitewash. This itself can be seen to have prompted yesterday's confirmation of an ambition that the Pru had certainly been harbouring before he went and which probably dated back to the middle of the last decade, when building societies first went into the selling of insurance.

The Pru had been considering buying a building society, and its creation from scratch of a branchless deposit and mortgage lending operation by the end of next year may merely be a toe in these waters, to be followed by a proper purchase if and

when a likely candidate comes along.

The building societies have only themselves to blame—in the free-for-all in financial services they have been aggressively taking business away from the insurers. The Pru intends to be a diversified, low-cost operation that can offer mortgages, life insurance, redundancy cover as now required under the revised social security rules and household and building insurance from under one roof. Its transformation is one more step towards what some see as the domination of the market by a handful of financial supermarkets.

### Minority view from ICI

THE story goes that the £12 billion merger of RIZ and its Australian associate CRA was finally agreed because the twin managements became tired of bumping into each other at far-flung airports and decided this duplication of effort had to stop.

Buying up part-owned subsidiaries is as fashionable as also-



holistic lemonade Down Under this year. BTR has bought the 37 per cent it did not already own of BTR Nylex, while America's Homestake Mining Company has taken out the outstanding 28.5 per cent of Homestake Gold Australia.

Now the talk on Aussie markets is of ICI moving in on the minority shares of its 62.5 per cent-owned subsidiary ICI Australia. This would not be without precedent for ICI—eight years ago it bought out the minority of its Canadian business CIL in order to develop its American business.

It would avoid any danger of ICI and ICI Australia competing against each other in new markets, notably the developing

economies of the Far East where both are looking to expand. Analysts in Sydney claim ICI Australia is already constrained in Asia because of fears of competing with its parent.

A recent redrawing of ICI's Far East paints business drew a dividing line between ICI Paints Asia, through which the parent company sells into China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, and the Australian Dulux business, restricted to its home country, New Zealand, Fiji and Papua New Guinea. The excitement in future will be in the parent company's hands.

Which brings it down to price. ICI Australia's share price has underperformed for most of 1995 and the company is now capitalised at less than £1.4 billion on the stock market, putting a modest £400 million price tag on the outstanding shares. Allow some premium for control—BTR gave BTR Nylex shareholders 34 per cent—and ICI would have to pay little more than £500 million. ICI is understandably keen to play down speculation for fear the price will

run away, and the deal will not come with ICI's third quarterlies tomorrow—but the betting is it will come eventually.

### Stalled on the Grid

STEPHEN LITTLECHILD has no shortage of critics of his reign as regulator of the electricity industry, but none has so far questioned his intelligence. But the confusion over the National Grid flotation suggests even he may be losing the thread.

The Grid, owned by the regional electricity companies or Recs, is being hived off in December, and all 22 million householders in England and Wales can expect a £50 rebate as a consequence. In his response to the Trade and Industry Select Committee report, Professor Littlechild welcomes the prospect of the Grid as an independent company "with customers receiving a share of the Recs' proceeds from floating the company".

The trouble is, there are no proceeds, at least none arising from outside the industry. The

Recs are receiving special dividends to cover their tax liabilities and some of the cost of the rebate but are giving the Grid away free to their shareholders. There is a problem, inevitably for a deal that was initially slotted in for this month and will now be lucky to get away by Christmas. One of the 12, Eastern, owned by Hanson, is holding out for a comfort letter from the Inland Revenue over its own tax position.

Incredibly, the only revenue official who can sign this is said to be too busy. The hold-up is typical of the technical problems that have bedevilled the Grid. We are assured the log-jam should be cleared by the end of the week. Much more delay and the timetable, including the necessary Recs shareholder meetings and the one-off payments to customers, will be threatened.

### On the right side

FORGET the rows between Mickey Kantor and his Japanese counterpart over who bugged whom. The real news is that at the Tokyo Motor Show this week the Americans will unveil their first right-hand drive models. In other words, the US car companies will for the first time market in Tokyo cars that are driveable on Japanese roads. Suddenly the US-Japan trade deficit comes into clearer focus.

## Wolseley gives a warning with its record results

By PHILIP FANGAOLIS

ANALYSTS have cut their profit forecasts for Wolseley after the building materials group announced record full-year profits with a warning of gloomy prospects because of depressed housing and construction markets worldwide.

The world's leading distributor of heating and plumbing products saw pre-tax profits advance 21.3 per cent to £245.4 million in the year to July 31, as turnover expanded 16.3 per cent to £3.78 billion.

The record profit figures stood out in a depressed building supplies industry, with the advance driven by acquisitions and strong performance from the group's French and US operations.

However, faltering housing and construction markets in the United Kingdom, Europe and the United States have prompted the group to warn investors that its markets re-

main tough and may deteriorate. Jeremy Lancaster, chairman and managing director, sees little realistic prospect of any significant improvement in Wolseley's main markets during the next financial year.

He said: "The difficulties in the UK housing and construction sector are clear for everyone to see. Any stimulus that may come from the Government or through increased consumer confidence is unlikely to have any positive effect until the second quarter of 1996. It is going to be very difficult to better this year's performance or perhaps even match it."

He added the performances of the French and US businesses were highlights of the year, though growth rate slowed in some areas in a softening US housing market.

Steve Webster, finance director, said the US distribu-

tion companies made good progress, though the rate of growth slowed at Carolina Builders and Erb Lumber in a softening US housing market.

There is a final dividend of 6.8p (6p), lifting the total to 9.8p (8.30p), from earnings ahead to 29.72p (25.39p) a share. Gearing stood at 13.2 per cent (10.1 per cent).

The results were accompanied by news that Mr Lancaster will retire as chairman next July, with Richard Ireland, currently a non-executive director and previous finance director, to take over as chairman. John Young, deputy group chief executive, will become chief executive on August 1.

Analysts have cut their current year pre-tax profit forecasts by more than £20 million to between £235 million and £255 million.

Times, page 28



Jeremy Lancaster, centre, with Richard Ireland, left, and John Young yesterday

## Gucci has a stylish opening

Shares in Gucci, the high fashion and leather goods group, notched up an elegant premium yesterday when they began trading after their flotation on the New York Stock Exchange.

In the first few minutes of trading the shares strode smartly to \$26 from the initial offer price of \$22 and stayed there for the rest of the day.

The issue raises \$500 million for Gucci after its owners, Investcorp SA, increased the size of the issue by 8.4 million shares. It also places Gucci alongside other chic fashion names with quotations such as Christian Dior, LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, and Hermès. Walter Loeb, of Loeb Associates, said: "It has a superb name and is highly regarded. There is an interest in quality merchandise and quality issues."

### Shining Silk

Silk Industries, the silk printer that boasts Hermès and Harrods among its customers, yesterday reported maiden interim pre-tax profits up 12 per cent from £872,000 to £973,000 in the six months to August 31. Sales were £64 million, up from £63 million. There is a 2p interim, due December 1. The shares were floated in June.

### Great guns

Royal Ordnance has won a £40 million contract to supply 105mm artillery guns and ammunition to the Spanish army. The deal will help to secure the jobs of RO workers in Nottingham. Spain will be the 15th country to buy the weapon. Tony Buxton, head of RO's large guns business, said: "We hope to make further sales in Europe in the near future."

### Medeva deal

Medeva, the pharmaceuticals company, yesterday acquired the marketing rights for seven Glaxo Wellcome prescription medicine products for £12.4 million. As part of the deal, 43 sales and marketing employees in Glaxo's Britannia division will join Medeva's Spanish subsidiary.

## Claims against Govett dismissed

By PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

SHARES in Govett & Company, the Anglo-American fund management and insurance group, jumped 9p to 284p yesterday after a Californian court threw out remaining claims against it by the American Endeavour Fund.

The fund filed its original suit against Govett in February, alleging, among other things, fraud and racketeering. The publicity surrounding the suit and a tumble in the Govett share price forced the company to abandon its planned acquisition of Duff & Phelps, the US fund manager.

In July, the fund's initial suit was dismissed by the federal court, but it refilled its claims as a cross-complaint in Govett's own claims against the fund in the California Superior Court.

This court has now dismissed the cross-complaint.

However, the fund said it has now begun proceedings against Govett in the Royal Court of Jersey. The proceedings are "substantially the same as the proceedings which it had brought in the San Francisco Superior Court". The fund is believed to be seeking damages of more than \$67 million. The fund, which used to be managed by Govett under the name Govett American Endeavour Fund, had sued Govett and Arthur Trueger, its chairman, for \$20 million damages under racketeering laws. Govett is seeking more than \$100 million in damages to compensate it for its inability to complete the Duff & Phelps deal.

After the Duff & Phelps deal fell through, Govett put its fund management businesses up for sale. It hopes to find a buyer this month.

## KW threat over compensation

By ROBERT MILLER

KNIGHT WILLIAMS, the controversial firm of retirement income specialists, yesterday threatened the Treasury that unless it takes "a more constructive" attitude to the firm's compensation offer to elderly investors, it is unlikely that "any will receive compensation".

The threat came in a letter to Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, from John Williams, a director of KW & Co, which went into liquidation this summer, who also demanded an apology for the way in which the KW case has been handled by Angela Knight, the Economic Secretary to the Treasury.

At least 400 people from the KW Investors Action Group, founded by Kenneth Jordan, applied for compensation from KW & Co under a special deal set up last Nov-

ember by the Securities and Investments Board, the chief City watchdog.

The compensation bill under the SIB scheme is estimated to have topped £3 million. Mr Williams said that Mrs Knight's earlier letter to him contained errors of fact and insinuations "which are deeply offensive".

Mrs Knight told Mr Williams: "It is surely in everyone's interests, including those of your former clients, many of whom are I believe elderly, for these matters to be resolved as speedily as possible."

Mr Jordan said: "I welcome the minister's no nonsense approach to the KW problem. She is clearly not going to allow herself to be distracted by the volumes of misinformation put about by Knight Williams."

## Son regrets not standing up to his father

## Kevin Maxwell lied to bank

KEVIN MAXWELL admitted yesterday that he lied to bankers, but said he did so only with great reluctance on his father's angry instructions.

He told a jury at the Central Criminal Court of the shame he felt at having agreed with orders his father gave him during a stormy meeting at which the publisher trumped the desk with his fist.

"My feelings of embarrassment and even shame about that conduct lying to the banks are no different today in this public courtroom than I felt at the time. I do feel very bad about misleading at best and lying at worst to the bank," he said.

He had confessed and apologised to the chairman of the bank concerned, Cod Ritchie, of the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Days after his father died in November 1991, Kevin Maxwell flew to Toronto for a personal meeting with Mr Ritchie. He said: "I apologised to Cod Ritchie personally for my conduct in the summer and failing to be open and frank, for having misled the bank."

He told the jury that Mr Ritchie was grateful and said he had admired Robert Maxwell for building up a great business in spite of the difficulties and that "I could

look forward to a long relationship with the bank".

Kevin Maxwell, on his seventh day in the witness box, said the lie came after the Maxwell Group committed a "technical default" on the conditions governing a debt.

"It's not a matter I am at all proud of," he said. He told the court he still regretted not standing up to his father.

Earlier, Kevin Maxwell accused National Westminster Bank of "swiping" \$65 million for itself from Maxwell assets, and claimed a senior executive had threatened him.

The court has heard that NatWest and Robert Maxwell had a relationship dating back 40 years. It had stood by him when he faced a DTI inquiry in the 1970s and had been rewarded in the 1980s when he came back strongly in business.

Kevin Maxwell said that after his father's death he had received a personal letter of condolence from John Melbourn, a senior NatWest executive. But, shortly after, said Kevin Maxwell, Mr Melbourn had refused to return shares in Teva, the Israeli company, which the bank was holding as a security, because

"he said he was concerned about the security position and that he didn't feel able or willing to release them".

Kevin Maxwell said he felt he was in no position to push because he needed the bank's help in arranging a standstill position. "I was at the mercy of John Melbourn at that point, and a week later at another meeting he threatened me".

He said this arose over instructions concerning an inter-company transfer of \$32 million. He told the jury that Mr Melbourn had said to him: "If you order me to do it I will, but if I do it I will abandon you and I will not support your standstill. You are not to do it."

On top of that, he said from the witness box, "they swiped \$65 million for themselves".

Kevin Maxwell, 36, his brother Ian, 39, and Larry Trachtenberg, 42, a former Maxwell financial adviser, deny conspiracy to defraud the pension funds by missing £22 million worth of Teva shares. Kevin Maxwell denies a further charge of conspiring with his father to mislead £100 million worth of shares in Scienc, another Israeli company.

The trial continues tomorrow.



Where others don't want you to fail, we want you to succeed.

Business is about more than just numbers on a balance sheet. It's about people, ambition and seizing opportunities.

These are some of the things we at Trade Indemnity-Heller consider when you need to finance your business.

We take a wider, overall view. Get to know your people. Assess the opportunities. And then act to provide

the finance you need. Get in touch with Trade Indemnity-Heller. Business Finance on 0800 85 85 87.



Trade Indemnity-Heller

For imaginative solutions beyond the balance sheet

Chrysol, Birmingham, Bristol, Stockport, Leeds



## STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

# Investors wary before new £3bn gilt auction

SHARE prices traded in narrow limits as investors decided that caution was the better part of valour before today's gilt auction.

The City does not want a repeat of last month's £3 billion auction which left the Bank of England with unwanted stock. Most brokers think this month's £3 billion issue will go smoothly, paving the way for a rally in equities after the uncertainty of recent days.

However, the FTSE 100 index was able to shrug off a gloomy distributive trades survey from the CBI to enjoy modest gains. It closed 3.3 points up at 3,535.3 on turnover of 629 million shares.

Hillsdown Holdings reversed an early 3p lead to finish 2p easier at 166p after being forced to halt production at its Telfers factory in Northampton which supplies sandwiches to Marks & Spencer. The decision follows the discovery of salmonella traces. The 600-strong workforce will be tested and stock worth £100,000 is reported to have been dumped. Tests are being carried out and it is hoped to restart output at the end of the week. Marks & Spencer was unchanged at 242p.

T&N was a dull market, losing 6p at 160p, after reports that the company may be forced to make increased provisions against further claims for asbestos.

Glaxo Wellcome touched 87p as brokers turned bullish of the shares after this week's out-of-court settlement in the US over patents covering an ingredient of Zantac. The shares closed 9p better at 87p. Medeva fell 4p to 282p. It has acquired, for a total of £12.4 million, the rights from Glaxo to market seven prescription products.

But Zeneca failed to make any impression with news that sales growth in the first nine months had grown 8 per cent to £3.7 billion. The shares lost 7p to 118p. The best performance came from its agrochemicals divisions which lifted sales 12 per cent. Another bright spot was the growth of Quorn output, which has doubled with the introduction of a new burger and the endorsement by the likes of Will Carling, the England rugby captain.

SmithKline Beecham rose 7p to 664p before today's third-quarter figures. There was heavy turnover in shares



Will Carling's skills failed to win the day for Zeneca

of Visteo, currently the subject of an agreed £22 million bid from Lynx Holdings, the computer group. The price slipped 1/2p to 191p as a number of large lines of stock went through the market. Three parcels totalling 15.73 million went through at 18 1/2p along with a further 6.62 million.

Bid target SelectTV formed 2p to 34 1/2p. Earlier this month

Britain's biggest investor, advanced 3 1/2p to 390 1/2p after announcing plans to become a bank. It has applied to the Bank of England to set up a branchless deposit and mortgage lending operation in a move designed to increase competition among banks and building societies. The move towards direct banking is expected to cost £70 million.

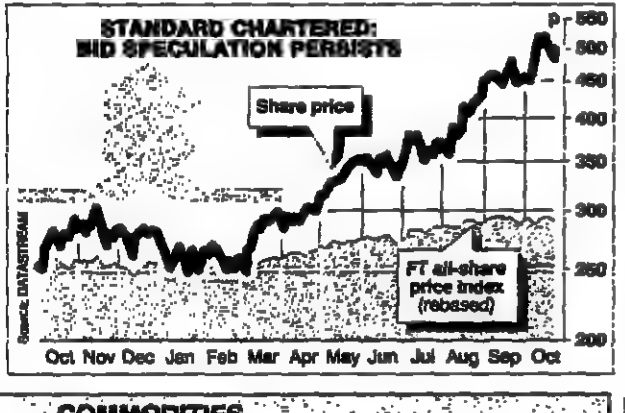
CE Heath, the insurance company, rallied from a year's low, rising 8p to 159p. Two million shares changed hands in a market where traders normally only make a price in 10,000. James Capel was behind much of the buying. The broker is said to have been telling clients that the break-up value of the group is 240p a share.

The independent television production company, announced it was in bid talks. Daily Mail & General Trust, up 1/2p at £12.85, owns a 13 per cent stake. MAI, unchanged at 316p and which controls Meridian, the independent broadcaster in the south of the country, has been tipped as a takeover target.

Prudential Corporation, 551p and Barclays 2 1/2p to

HSBC, which owns Midland Bank and First Direct, seemed unperturbed, adding 6 1/2p to 930 1/2p.

The rest of the banks enjoyed a late burst of speculative support thought to have come from the other side of the Atlantic. National Westminster stood out with a rise of 1 1/2p to 651 1/2p, while Abbey National edged ahead 1 1/2p to 551p and Barclays 2 1/2p to



742p. Standard Chartered, the international banking group, was also on the move with the price adding 1 1/2p to 499p on persistent hopes of a bid. Standard was the target of an abortive attempt by Lloyds Bank in the 1980s and was only rescued by the intervention of several white knights. By the close of business, almost 6.5 million shares had traded.

News of a management buyout at its Golden Wonder snacks division lifted Dalgety 5p to 422p. The £54.6 million buyout by the management is being backed by Legal & General Ventures and led by Clive Sharpe, a former director of Golden Wonder and chief executive of Homepride.

Wolseley, the building products supplier, shed 1p at 375p after giving warning that its existing markets remain difficult and may deteriorate. Impressive full-year figures from McKechie have been offset by news that the current year has started with growth levels down. Pre-tax profits last year climbed from £35.3 million to £43.5 million.

Dobson Park eased 1p to 123p with Harnischfeger, the US mining equipment group, having received acceptance of 0.09 per cent for its 110p a share offer. The offer has been extended to November 10.

Plans by Harnischfeger to increase the terms of its bid by an extra 18.3p have been shelved after Dobson Park said it would not recommend the proposals.

GLIF EDGED: Prices saw early gains whittled away as investors turned their attention towards today's gilt auction. The issue of £3 billion of 20-year stock is expected to go well after last month's issue which was undersubscribed. But brokers said there was no room for complacency and it was inevitable that a few nerves were likely to creep into trading yesterday and prices closed narrowly mixed. In the futures pit, the December long gilt finished 1/2p better at £104 1/2.

In longs, Treasury 8 1/2 per cent 2017 ended four ticks easier at £103 1/2, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 lost a tick to £10 1/4.

NEW YORK: The Dow Jones industrial average was up 16.25 points to 4,771.74 at midday as a better tone in the dollar and bonds added a rebound from yesterday's near 40-point reverse.

## MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday)  
Dow Jones 4771.74 (+16.25)  
S&P Composite 585.73 (+0.69)

Tokyo  
Nikkei Average 18014.25 (+141.59)

Hong Kong  
Hang Seng 9775.66 (+104.87)

Amsterdam  
EEX Index 452.58 (+3.39)

Sydney  
All Ordinaries 2080.00 (+9.3)

Frankfurt  
DAX 2113.60 (+6.18)

Singapore  
Straits 2089.44 (+18.48)

Brussels  
General 2688.28 (+2.62)

Paris  
CAC 40 1726.21 (+3.07)

Zurich  
SIX 688.30 (+2.70)

London  
FT 30 2582.7 (+3.2)

FT 100 3533.3 (+3.8)

FT 250 2904.8 (+2.7)

FT 50-A 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-B 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-C 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-D 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-E 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-F 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-G 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-H 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-I 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-J 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-K 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-L 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-M 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-N 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-O 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-P 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-Q 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-R 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-S 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-T 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-U 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-V 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-W 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-X 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-Y 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-Z 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AA 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AB 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AC 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AD 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AE 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AF 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AG 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AH 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AI 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AJ 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AK 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AL 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AM 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AN 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AO 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AP 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AQ 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AR 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AS 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AT 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AU 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AV 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AW 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AX 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AY 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-AZ 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BA 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BB 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BC 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BD 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BE 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BF 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BG 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BH 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BI 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BJ 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BK 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BL 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BM 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BN 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BO 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BP 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BQ 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BR 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BS 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BT 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BU 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BV 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BW 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BX 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BY 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-BZ 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-CA 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-CB 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-CC 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-CD 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-CE 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-CF 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-CG 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-CH 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

FT 50-CI 250 1759.4 (+0.8)

## TEMPUS

THE trouble with holding bid stocks is that the hoped-for bids do not always materialise. In their absence, attention is once again drawn to the less glamorous fundamentals of investment valuation. When the fundamentals fail to justify the valuation, the temptation is to castigate those who cry "bid" but, in the end, bidders themselves are driven as much by price as by fundamentals.

Zeneca's share price has soared in reaction to real and rumoured bids in the pharmaceutical sector, with Swiss groups such as Ciba-Geigy and Hoffmann La Roche, favoured as candidates for a predator. Yesterday, however, investors were provided with some hard information on which to judge the company's performance. The figures were not entirely flattering.

Sales were up 8 per cent overall but

throughout the UK, Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to

maintain margins during a bad year. The company is expanding the Plumb Centre chain aggressively and more new outlets are planned this year. Given the need to generate volumes for the new stores, Wolseley looks ill-placed to resist any price pressures from rivals and profits will suffer accordingly. The shares could weaken.

Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to

maintain margins during a bad year. The company is expanding the Plumb Centre chain aggressively and more new outlets are planned this year. Given the need to generate volumes for the new stores, Wolseley looks ill-placed to resist any price pressures from rivals and profits will suffer accordingly. The shares could weaken.

Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to

maintain margins during a bad year. The company is expanding the Plumb Centre chain aggressively and more new outlets are planned this year. Given the need to generate volumes for the new stores, Wolseley looks ill-placed to resist any price pressures from rivals and profits will suffer accordingly. The shares could weaken.

Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to

maintain margins during a bad year. The company is expanding the Plumb Centre chain aggressively and more new outlets are planned this year. Given the need to generate volumes for the new stores, Wolseley looks ill-placed to resist any price pressures from rivals and profits will suffer accordingly. The shares could weaken.

Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to

maintain margins during a bad year. The company is expanding the Plumb Centre chain aggressively and more new outlets are planned this year. Given the need to generate volumes for the new stores, Wolseley looks ill-placed to resist any price pressures from rivals and profits will suffer accordingly. The shares could weaken.

Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to

maintain margins during a bad year. The company is expanding the Plumb Centre chain aggressively and more new outlets are planned this year. Given the need to generate volumes for the new stores, Wolseley looks ill-placed to resist any price pressures from rivals and profits will suffer accordingly. The shares could weaken.

Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to

maintain margins during a bad year. The company is expanding the Plumb Centre chain aggressively and more new outlets are planned this year. Given the need to generate volumes for the new stores, Wolseley looks ill-placed to resist any price pressures from rivals and profits will suffer accordingly. The shares could weaken.

Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to

maintain margins during a bad year. The company is expanding the Plumb Centre chain aggressively and more new outlets are planned this year. Given the need to generate volumes for the new stores, Wolseley looks ill-placed to resist any price pressures from rivals and profits will suffer accordingly. The shares could weaken.

Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to

maintain margins during a bad year. The company is expanding the Plumb Centre chain aggressively and more new outlets are planned this year. Given the need to generate volumes for the new stores, Wolseley looks ill-placed to resist any price pressures from rivals and profits will suffer accordingly. The shares could weaken.

Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to

maintain margins during a bad year. The company is expanding the Plumb Centre chain aggressively and more new outlets are planned this year. Given the need to generate volumes for the new stores, Wolseley looks ill-placed to resist any price pressures from rivals and profits will suffer accordingly. The shares could weaken.

Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to

maintain margins during a bad year. The company is expanding the Plumb Centre chain aggressively and more new outlets are planned this year. Given the need to generate volumes for the new stores, Wolseley looks ill-placed to resist any price pressures from rivals and profits will suffer accordingly. The shares could weaken.

Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to

maintain margins during a bad year. The company is expanding the Plumb Centre chain aggressively and more new outlets are planned this year. Given the need to generate volumes for the new stores, Wolseley looks ill-placed to resist any price pressures from rivals and profits will suffer accordingly. The shares could weaken.

Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to

maintain margins during a bad year. The company is expanding the Plumb Centre chain aggressively and more new outlets are planned this year. Given the need to generate volumes for the new stores, Wolseley looks ill-placed to resist any price pressures from rivals and profits will suffer accordingly. The shares could weaken.

Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to

maintain margins during a bad year. The company is expanding the Plumb Centre chain aggressively and more new outlets are planned this year. Given the need to generate volumes for the new stores, Wolseley looks ill-placed to resist any price pressures from rivals and profits will suffer accordingly. The shares could weaken.

Wolseley's Plumb Centre gained sales and, says the company, improved its margin, although Wolseley is too shy to provide a proper breakdown of its sales and profit growth.

If volume declines in the building sector continue, as expected, the question is whether Wolseley can afford to give up sales in order to



bids

# THE TIMES CITY DIARY

## Not smoke-free or free smokes

JOHN CHALSTREY, the incoming Lord Mayor of the City of London, who takes over on November 10, admits that he is not an expert in financial matters. But as a consultant surgeon at the City's historic Bart's hospital, he knows a thing or two about health. He says: "During my years in office I would like to persuade the people of the City to take more care of themselves — to think about their weight, healthy eating, giving up smoking and taking more recreation. He will not be going to be smoking at official functions, but cigars and cigarettes will not be offered, and there won't be many ashtrays about." Mr Chalstreay, a 64-year-old, says a ban would be undemocratic, but it will be discouraged. "If you want to smoke you will have to bring out your own."

## Gold putter

IT WILL be the biggest tussle seen at Stoke Poges Golf Club since James Bond took on and beat arch villain Goldfinger on the hallowed greens. That was back in 1964. The City Diary Square Mile Golf Challenge, at Stoke Poges today, will be friendlier, although no less competitive. The Square Mile Golf Challenge has attracted Prudential, BP, General Electric, KPMG, the accountancy, Oyst, the stationery group, and Dicks. More than 30 teams will tee-off and the winner's prize is a place in the draw for next year's regional final of The Times/Morrisons Corporate Golf Challenge.



The man from the Pru

## New money

IT IS strange to hear German central bankers praising Italian monetary management as the lira is collapsing and as doubts are growing about EMU. Yet that is what Ottavio Lissing, the Bundesbank director, was doing before members of the Buenos Aires stock exchange this week. He recalled that the Romans successfully operated a single currency, which allowed Rhineland merchants in the first century AD to pay their bills across Europe with the same coin, the denarius. The new coin?

## Stepping down

PAUL TISCH, currently chief executive of Société Générale Strauss Turnbull, the UK securities subsidiary of Société Générale, has decided to take early retirement and will be stepping down at the end of this year. Frenchman Patrick Pagnat, who has been with Société Générale since 1970, will become chief executive of SGST from January 1, combining his existing role as UK general manager of Société Générale's London branch.

## Second chance

FRESH from parting company with Ivor Jones, Roy, the second biggest South African broker SBC Warburg has found a new willing candidate. It has bought JD Anderson, one of the top ten firms. Meanwhile, Deutsche Morgan Grenfell is poised to announce its 50 per cent acquisition of a South African broker. The target? Ivor Jones, Roy.



The Government must attract inward investment while spreading the benefits widely to avoid rapid migration from countryside to city

# Vietnam's colonial past comes back to benefit the French

Ross Tieman finds France winning the battle for hearts and minds as former Saigon opens for trade

Shan Chi Lan has a little bookstall opposite the Continental Hotel, where Graham Greene chronicled the dying days of French rule in Vietnam in his classic novel *The Quiet American*. Most of her sales are to tourists, French and American. In the main, who are rediscovering Ho Chi Minh City, once better known as Saigon. But amid the guidebooks and histories there is a new section for a new era: pirated copies of booklets on investment in Vietnam by KPMG and Price Waterhouse.

Progress by Vietnam's Communist Government in opening the economy to foreign business is hesitant. Joint ventures remain obligatory, the legal framework opaque and red tape engulfs every new project. But with the Elisee straining every sinew in their aid, French companies are showing a remarkable determination to re-build businesses in the country that was once the pride of the French empire.

The defeat of the French army by North Vietnamese forces at Dien Bien Phu in 1954 has left a scar on the French national psyche. But deeper still runs a fascination with one of the most beguiling countries in the Orient, a nascent market of 72 million where many hallmarks of French culture, from baguettes to Tin Tin cartoons, have taken root and flourished.

The drive to rebuild the special relationship between France and its former colony does not come from France alone. In the past few years, the shackles of communist control over daily life and contact with foreigners have slackened. Expatriate workers no longer have a spy at their gate and a tap on their telephone. Many educated Vietnamese speak French with formidable correctness. Middle-aged cafe owners reveal a



Planchon: entrepreneur

command of the language previously concealed behind a mask of political correctness. Schoolchildren practice on foreigners at every opportunity. The new *entente cordiale* stems in part from a sense of shared cultural inheritance. But it is also based on a profound faith in French technology and past experience of the sheer dedication of French commitment to Indochina. Americans are also welcomed. But it was the French who built the roads, the railway and the ports, and who introduced the Vietnamese to modern science.

Eric Planchon, a paratrooper turned entrepreneur who headed the Vietnamese operations of Rhône-Poulenc, the French chemical company, for the first half of this decade, says: "The Vietnamese adore — and adore is the right word — French pharmaceutical products." By his reckoning, half of all pharmaceutical products sold in Vietnam come from France.

Medicine is not the only area where the Vietnamese trust their lives to French technology. In spite of passenger growth of 36 per cent a year for the past three years, Vietnam Airlines' fleet of ageing Tupolev 134s stands idle on the tarmac at Tan Son Nhat airport on the outskirts of Ho Chi Minh City.

The Russian aircraft have been replaced with jets from Airbus Industrie and turbo-propellers from the neighbouring Toulouse factory of ATR. Vietnam Airlines is negotiating a follow-on deal to lease ten A320 planes. Training and technical support for the rapid expansion and modernisation of Vietnam Air-

American withdrawal in 1975, Rhône-Poulenc, as one of the few western companies remaining, acted as sales agent for products ranging from Peugeot cars to Otis lifts.

But in 1990, M Planchon was despatched from France to relocate the business on Rhône-Poulenc products of relevance to Vietnam: pharmaceuticals, insecticides and chemicals.

After three years of negotiations, in which Rhône-Poulenc threatened to pull out of the Ho Chi Minh drugs factory, the company succeeded in creating a new pharmaceutical joint venture in which it owns 70 per cent of the shares. Confronted by a new 20-year sales licence, Rhône-Poulenc plans to rebuild the plant.

After experiments on rice crops in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam has become the first country to license the use of the French company's new "miracle" insecticide, Piplonil. Because of its focus on products that will improve the lot of Vietnam's 72 million people, Rhône-Poulenc has been growing sales fast from a tiny base.

The Taiwanese, Koreans, Singaporeans and Australian investors are in the vanguard, with American companies now joining the race. By the end of September, 1,280 foreign-sponsored projects, requiring investment of \$17.3 billion, had been licensed to operate in Vietnam. But on the streets of Ho Chi Minh, the French are leading the way.

Recent delays in the process of reform suggest the latter course may be preferred. If so, Rhône-Poulenc is well placed. It started selling pharmaceuticals in Vietnam as long ago as 1938. But it was not until 1962 that Vinaspécia, a Vietnamese-controlled joint venture company to manufacture drugs, was established in Saigon. After the

build a refinery at Vung Tau, at the mouth of the Saigon River. Vietnam has modest oil reserves, producing about 7 million tonnes of oil a year. But because the country has only a tiny refinery, virtually all the oil is exported, while fuel imports weigh heavily on the balance of payments. Total has put its plans on hold, however, because the Vietnamese Government will not give approval unless the refinery is built at Dung Quat, more than 300km north of both the main market and the reserves in the south Con Son Basin and the Mekong Delta.

This kind of difficulty is not uncommon. To hang onto power, the Communist Government has to attract inward investment and achieve rapid economic expansion. But it also has to spread the benefits widely, to avoid a widening prosperity gap that would trigger rapid migration of farmers, some 60 per cent of the workforce, to the towns.

A study by the Economist Intelligence Unit concluded that Vietnam's leaders have a tough choice. If they focus on export-oriented industries, they could achieve annual growth rates of 9.3 per cent for the rest of the decade. But if they try to make sure the rural areas benefit too, growth could be slowed to 8.3 per cent a year.

Recent delays in the process of reform suggest the latter course may be preferred. If so, Rhône-Poulenc is well placed. It started selling pharmaceuticals in Vietnam as long ago as 1938. But it was not until 1962 that Vinaspécia, a Vietnamese-controlled joint venture company to manufacture drugs, was established in Saigon. After the

imported from Paris. The French expatriate community in Vietnam's commercial capital has risen to 950. More telling still: in the past four years, the number of pupils at the French school in Ho Chi Minh has risen from 25 to 264. Expatriates do not move their children from school to school lightly. The French are here for the long haul. Only two French companies succeeded in staying through three decades of conflict and the years of austerity that followed. Their experience is enlightening.

Total, the oil group, has drawn up detailed plans to

# Pru banks on its reputation as it joins the life fightback

Patricia Tehan assesses the Prudential's desire to become a bank



Peter Davis, left, with Michael Harris, right, the Pru's head of banking, and Jim Sutcliffe, chief executive

If the Prudential were to be one of its own advertising campaigns yesterday it would have been heard proclaiming "I want to be a bank". While it is still waiting for formal approval from the Bank of England, the UK's largest life insurance and investment group would appear to have got its wish.

It is seeking a banking licence and plans to begin operating a telephone-based, branchless deposit and mortgage lending operation at the end of next year. Seen as part of the rapid consolidation of the UK financial services market, the move is also part of the growing attempt by life companies to fight back against banks and building societies whose "bancassurance" operations have made huge inroads into the life assurance market.

TSB is credited with having started the bancassurance ball rolling, with significant results in the late 1970s. Lloyds followed suit in 1988 when it bought a 60 per cent stake in Abbey Life and merged it with five Lloyds

businesses to create Lloyds Abbey Life. Yesterday's announcement also highlights the increasing willingness of financial services customers to do business by telephone. Direct Line, the telephone-based insurance company owned by Royal Bank of Scotland, received a licence from the Bank of England to offer deposit and bank accounts in June.

Like Direct Line, the Pru said yesterday it would be limiting itself to savings products and had no plans in the short term for a current account. Direct Line Financial Services began offering unsecured personal loans last year and this year launched a mortgage service.

Scottish Widows, the mutual life insurer, also received a banking licence this year and in May started offering a range of four liquid savings products. As with the Pru's plans, the deposit accounts are not intended to replace current bank accounts.

The Pru's deposit accounts will be telephone and postal accounts. The Pru describes its planned operation as a "direct banking service", though, in fact, the service will be more of a direct building society than a bank. The Prudential move follows hints dropped by Peter

Davis, its chief executive, last month when he unveiled its first-half results. He stressed the importance for life companies of flexible products. Although the life industry has been depressed by the publicity surrounding pensions mis-selling and by a lack of consumer confidence in financial services, analysts believe that life companies are not tarnished by the negative feelings many customers have about their banks.

The Pru has a salesforce of 6,500 that will be the means of promoting the new deposit accounts and will sell new Prudential mortgages. It has more than six million customers in the UK who have a range of medium and long-term savings products. A short-term savings account was the next logical step.

# CORBY SPOT ON for

## BETTER COMPANY

Eight hundred new firms in ten years. Two-thirds in manufacturing. Highest proportion in UK of overseas companies. Over £1,000m private investment. Best of business company with Westchase, Oxford University Press, Avon Cosmetics, Golden Wonder, British Steel...

## BETTER LOCATION

At the live centre of England. The choice of top distributors. Thirty million people in two hours road radius. Heathrow, Birmingham, Stansted in easy reach. Inter-city, A1-M1 link, only strategic East-West link south of the M62, is Corby's fast track to North-South road arteries, M6, East coast Euroports.

## BETTER OPPORTUNITIES

Serviced greenfield sites aplenty. Ready for development. For sale. For manufacture. For business. For services. For leisure. A million square feet of ready-to-occupy premises. Brand new business parks. Four-star conference facilities. Backed by 14 years' success in helping business to relocate, setup, prosper, expand.

## BETTER LIVING

A new town of modern business, social and leisure amenities. Yet with all the traditional values of a mature hardworking community. Only a stone's throw from breathtaking English countryside. From warm brownstone villages. From comfortable pubs and hotels. From fine country houses and stately homes. Only an hour from London.

To find out why CORBY WORKS send the coupon off today

Mr John Hill, Director of Industry,  
Corby Industrial Development Centre,  
Greenway House, George Street, Corby, Northants NN17 1TZ.  
Tel: 01536 262571 Fax: 01536 401374

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
TOWN \_\_\_\_\_

**CORBY Nobody does it Better**



## Modest gains at the close

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554	1553	1552	1551	1550	1549	1548	1547	1546	1545	1544	1543	1542	1541	1540	1539	1538	1537	1536	1535	1534	1533	1532	1531	1530	1529	1528	1527	1526	1525	1524	1523	1522	1521	1520	1519	1518	1517	1516	1515	1514	1513	1512	1511	1510	1509	1508	1507	1506	1505	1504	1503	1502	1501	1500	1499	1498	1497	1496	1495	1494	1493	1492	1491	1490	1489	1488	1487	1486	1485	1484	1483	1482	1481	1480	1479	1478	1477	1476	1475	1474	1473	1472	1471	1470	1469	1468	1467	1466	1465	1464	1463	1462	1461	1460	1459	1458	1457	1456	1455	1454	1453	1452	1451	1450	1449	1448	1447	1446	1445	1444	1443	1442	1441	1440	1439	1438	1437	1436	1435	1434	1433	1432	1431	1430	1429	1428	1427	1426	1425	1424	1423	1422	1421	1420	1419	1418	1417	1416	1415	1414	1413	1412	1411	1410	1409	1408	1407	1406	1405	1404	1403	1402	1401	1400	1399	1398	1397	1396	1395	1394	1393	1392	1391	1390	1389	1388	1387	1386	1385	1384	1383	1382	1381	1380	1379	1378	1377	1376	1375	1374	1373	1372	1371	1370	1369	1368	1367	1366	1365	1364	1363	1362	1361	1360	1359	1358	1357	1356	1355	1354	1353	1352	1351	1350	1349	1348	1347	1346	1345	1344	1343	1342	1341	1340	1339	1338	1337	1336	1335	1334	1333	1332	1331	1330	1329	1328	1327	1326	1325	1324	1323	1322	1321	1320	1319	1318	1317	1316	1315	1314	1313	1312	1311	1310	1309	1308	1307	1306	1305	1304	1303	1302	1301	1300	1299	1298	1297	1296	1295	1294	1293	1292	1291	1290	1289	1288	1287	1286	1285	1284	1283	1282	1281	1280	1279	1278	1277	1276	1275	1274	1273	1272	1271	1270	1269	1268	1267	1266	1265	1264	1263	1262	1261	1260	1259	1258	1257	1256	1255	1254	1253	1252	1251	1250	1249	1248	1247	1246	1245	1244	1243	1242	1241	1240	1239	1238	1237	1236	1235	1234	1233	1232	1231	1230	1229	1228	1227	1226	1225	1224	1223	1222	1221	1220	1219	1218	1217	1216	1215	1214	1213	1212	1211	1210	1209	1208	1207	1206	1205	1204	1203	1202	1201	1200	1199	1198	1197	1196	1195	1194	1193	1192	1191	1190	1189	1188	1187	1186	1185	1184	1183	1182	1181	1180	1179	1178	1177	1176	1175	1174	1173	1172	1171	1170	1169	1168	1167	1166	1165	1164	1163	1162	1161	1160	1159	1158	1157	1156	1155	1154	1153	1152	1151	1150	1149	1148	1147	1146	1145	1144	1143	1142	1141	1140	1139	1138	1137	1136	1135	1134	1133	1132	1131	1130	1129	1128	1127	1126	1125	1124	1123	1122	1121	1120	1119	1118	1117	1116	1115	1114	1113	1112	1111	1110	1109	1108	1107	1106	1105	1104	1103	1102	1101	1100	1099	1098	1097	1096	1095	1094	1093	1092	1091	1090	1089	1088	1087	1086	1085	1084	1083	1082	1081	1080	1079	1078	1077	1076	1075	1074	1073	1072	1071	1070	1069	1068	1067	1066	1065	1064	1063	1062	1061	1060	1059	1058	1057	1056	1055	1054	1053	1052	1051	1050	1049	1048	1047	1046	1045	1044	1043	1042	1041	1040	1039	1038	1037	1036	1035	1034	1033	1032	1031	1030	1029	1028	1027	1026	1025	1024	1023	1022	1021	1020	1019	1018	1017	1016	1015	1014	1013	1012	1011	1010	1009	1008	1007	1006	1005	1004	1003	1002	1001	1000	999	998	997	996	995	994	993	992	991	990	989	988	987	986	985	984	983	982	981	980	979	978	977	976	975	974	973	972	971	970	969	968	967	966	965	964	963	962	961	960	959	958	957	956	955	954	953	952	951	950	949	948	947	946	945	944	943	942	941	940	939	938	937	936	935	934	933	932	931	930	929	928	927	926	925	924	923	922	921	920	919	918	917	916	915	914	913	912	911	910	909	908	907	906	905	904	903	902	901	900	899	898	897	896	895	894	893	892	891	890	889	888	887	886	885	884	883	882	881	880	879	878	877	876	875	874	873	872	871	870	869	868	867	866	865	864	863	862	861	860	859	858	857	856	855	854	853	852	851	850	849	848	847	846	845	844	843	842	841	840	839	838	837	836	835	834	833	832	831	830	829	828	827	826	825	824	823	822	821	820	819	818	817	816	815	814	813	812	811	810	809	808	807	806	805	804	803	802	801	800	799	798	797	796	795	794	793	792	791	790	789	788	787	786	785	784	783	782	781	780	779	778	777	776	775	774	773	772	771	770	769	768	767	766	765	764	763	762	761	760	759	758	757	756	755	754	753	752	751	750	749	748	747	746	745	744	743	742	741	740	739	738	737	736	735	734	733	732	731	730	729	728	727	726	725	724	723	722	721	720	719	718	717	716	715	714	713	712	711	710	709	708	707	706	705	704	703	702	701	700	699	698	697	696	695	694	693	692	691	690	689	688	687	686	685	684	683	682	681	680	679	678	677	676	675	674	673	672	671	670	669	668	667	666	665	664	663	662	661	660	659	658	657	656	655	654	653	652	651	650	649	648	647	646	645	644	643	642	641	640	639	638	637	636	635	634	633	632	631	630	629	628	627	626	625	624	623	622	621	620	619	618	617	616	615	614	613	612	611	610	609	608	607	606	605	604	603	
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	--



# Shares slide as McKechnie tells of slowdown

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

A WARNING that the new financial year had started slowly for McKechnie, the metal components and plastics group, sent its shares down 12p to 442p.

The Midlands group, which said first-half growth was likely to be lower than that for the year to the end of July, also sounded further caution on the state of the housing market. But Stuart McKechnie, finance director, said that the group remained committed to supplying the area. He said: "It is a very difficult market but we have no plans to exit. We do think that there will be a recovery, although it is taking some time."

McKechnie is, however, to reduce its general exposure to the UK in favour of a greater global spread and is looking to grow in North America and Europe. About 49 per cent of the group's sales depend on the UK, although if secondary

exports are taken into consideration, then the underlying exposure is about 30 per cent.

Mr Moberley said that the group intends to reduce proportionate headline sales to about 35 per cent of the total in the medium term and about 30 per cent in the long term, although it intended to maintain the volumes at their present level. In the year to July 31, UK sales were £265 million, up 35 per cent, fuelled by an improvement in the plastics sector and by integration of acquisitions, including Linread, the fasteners business bought by McKechnie last year.

Plastics, which included a substantial contribution from Plastic Engineers, saw a jump in operational profit from £4.1 million to £13.7 million. Plastic Engineers is benefiting from supplying the fast expanding computer peripherals and information technology indus-

try. The company, which spent £8 million on acquisitions during the last financial year and which received £8.3 million from disposals, wiped out its gearing of 7 per cent. However, Mr Moberley said that McKechnie was in no hurry to spend its money after having invested substantially in plant in the past year.

Overall, McKechnie increased sales 27 per cent to £522.6 million on which it achieved pre-tax profits of £45.3 million, a rise of 28.3 per cent on the previous year.

Adverse Australian and New Zealand dollar cross rates cost £3 million. The company has now taken a forward position in the currencies.

The final dividend, due on January 19, is 11p (9.75p), which takes the total to 16.5p, a rise of 11.9 per cent.

Times, page 28



Placing plans: Derek Mapp, chief executive of Tom Cobleigh, left, with Ken Pratt, finance director, yesterday

## Tom Cobleigh rides to £50m market price

TOM COBLEIGH, the independent pub retailer, is planning a stock market flotation next month via a placing to institutions, in a move that is likely to capitalise the company in excess of £50 million.

The company, formed in January 1992, operates in the East Midlands, Yorkshire and Humberside. It has built a managed

estate of 46 outlets, as well as 34 tenanted pubs trading as the Nice Pub Company. Cobleigh's flotation is expected to raise net proceeds of about £22 million, which will be used to virtually eliminate borrowings and finance expansion. Samuel Montagu is sponsor and Hoare Govett, the broker. The company made a

pre-tax profit of £1.6 million in the 53 weeks to April 1, on turnover of £14.7 million and a pre-tax profit of £1 million in the 26 weeks to September 30.

Derek Mapp, managing director, said: "Tom Cobleigh is strongly positioned to take advantage of the opportunities available in UK pub retailing."

## Scottish Property warning

By MARTIN BARROW

SCOTTISH Metropolitan Property, the property investment company, said there had been a downturn in activity in the commercial property market since the spring, and gave warning that there was no sign of confidence returning in the short term.

In the year to August 15, the company suffered a downturn in pre-tax profits to £8.5 million (£11.33 million). Excluding the impact of the sale of investment properties, profits rose to £8.69 million (£5.77 million).

The valuation of investment properties on an open market value basis by DTZ Debenham Thorpe at August 15 was £228.13 million, a decrease of 1.7 per cent over book value. Net assets were 99.71p a share (99.31p).

The final dividend is maintained at 1.5p a share, to be paid on January 5, making a total of 2.5p (2p). Earnings, including property sales, were 5.91p a share (5.82p).

## Scholl rebels fail to win board vote

By ERIC RASOUL

REBEL shareholders of Scholl yesterday failed to get their own directors elected to the board of the medical products company, but vowed to continue harassing the management until their demands were met.

The rebels, the UK Active Value Continuation Fund, a venture capital fund based in the British Virgin Islands, and certain clients of J O Hambro Investment Management, tried to remove three non-executive directors and replace them with three of their own, who would then seek to put Scholl on the auction block. About 60 per cent of the votes went against their resolutions at the company's extraordinary general meeting in London.

Although Scholl, which

has agreed to continue negotiating with the rebels, who own 15 per cent of the company, "in order to create an environment in which management can concentrate on running the business".

Specifically, it has agreed in principle to appoint a single non-executive director to the board. The rebels have been promoting James Hambro, managing director of J O Hambro & Partners, who would lead a sub-committee charged with finding potential bidders for the company.

Scholl has not yet approved Mr Hambro. Judy Stammers, Scholl's finance director, said: "Matters such as the sale of the company are too fundamental to be considered by a sub-committee."

### GOA

An Enchanting Necklace of  
Gorgeous Beaches &  
Colourful Culture

7Nts from £329 14Nts from £369  
24 ADDITIONAL OPTIONS MEAL PLAN: Bed & Breakfast

### KERALA

The Venice of the EAST offers  
Unspoilt Golden Beaches

7Nts from £299  
Many Other Options Available MEAL PLAN: Bed & Breakfast

### Golden Triangle

Delhi, Agra & Jaipur

7Nts BA Scheduled from £1078  
Minimum Three Nights Available, Scheduled to Charter MEAL PLAN: Bed & Breakfast

REQUEST YOUR BROCHURE  
**SOMAK**  
HOLIDAYS

ATOL 259 TEL: 0181 423 3000 ABTA 10319

TO MAKE SURE YOUR KEY STAFF  
HAVE GOT THE PROTECTION THEY NEED,  
WE RECOMMEND YOU  
TAKE OUT CONTRACTS ON THEIR LIVES.

### QTSC

Queensland Transmission and  
Supply Corporation

### Registration of Interest

Utilisation of Overhead and Underground  
Assets for Broadband Communication  
Services, including Pay TV.

The Queensland Transmission & Supply Corporation (QTSC) is responsible for electricity transmission and distribution to approx. 1.4 million customers in the State of Queensland in Australia through eight subsidiary corporations comprising the QTSC Group.

The QTSC Group is calling for Registrations of Interest for commercial utilisation of network assets for broadband communication services including PAY TV.

Registrations are sought to provide a business solution that can be implemented across the state to achieve the following while meeting the Queensland Government Industry Development objectives:

- Provision of broadband communication services, including PAY TV for all Queensland households.
- Provision of two-way interactive services for the QTSC Group.

Registration of Interest documents are available from NOROB, Northern Section, 21 Scotch Street, Townsville, Tel: +61 77 276 255, Fax: +61 77 276 260.

Registration must be sealed and appropriately endorsed so as to reach the Chief Executive Officer no later than 3pm Wednesday, 6th December, 1995.

North Queensland Electricity Corporation  
PO Box 1080, Townsville  
Qld Australia 4810



THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

الحمد لله











TO ADVERTISE  
CALL: 0171 481 9994

# LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

FAX:  
0171 481 9313

## SMART YOUNG SECRETARIES

Are you keen to use your initiative? Replying to this ad would be a very good start because our clients, a leading city investment bank can offer you career progression, an excellent salary and a really interesting, involved role. Working at Director level you will organise meetings, travel, diaries and social events. It is a fast-moving but very friendly environment and the office is superb. Ongoing training is offered and you will also benefit from the support of highly organised back-up staff and the most up to date technology. Previous city experience is NOT a requirement. Benefits include free lunch, bonus, bonus and paid overtime. Basic salary up to £18,500 plus package = £22,000. Take the initiative and call us today.

Tel: 0171 377 6500 Fax: 0171 377 6500

**CROSS SELECTION**

## CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY

to £30,000 + benefits

This is a unique opportunity to work for the worldwide Head of this international City firm. The company is large, high profile, very well established and a leader in its field. The role involves providing secretarial support at the highest level where your professionalism and commitment will be rewarded. Senior level experience is essential as is total dedication to the job and the flexibility to work long hours. 100/60 skills. Age 35+. Please telephone 0171 628 9529.

**Elizabeth Hunt**

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## WORKING Best Job in La Creme

PA to Media Giant £22,000

We know that without even speaking to our competitors this is the best job in La Creme this month. Very rarely does such a high profile position come available at a Media Advertising Agency. This company is one to die for and the Boss has been voted the most popular and dynamic to work for. He has recently been promoted to Head of the biggest and most vital Department and has subsequently requested a top PA to work alongside him. You will quickly become his 'eyes and ears' and act more as his Assistant totally organising him from one hour to the next. Coming from a Media background is not essential however a City/Advertising background would be a bonus. What is important is solid secretarial skills, previous experience at Director level within a large organisation and some graphics skills preferably Powerpoint for presentation work. Age 25-35. Call all MCV on 0171 628 1040/524 or fax your CV to 0171-240 1825. Only the best will do - make sure it's you!

Working Girls Ltd, Professional Recruitment  
17 Tavistock St, Covent Garden, London WC2E 7PA.

## FANTASTIC PUBLISHING £21,000

The Managing Director of this highly successful company specialising in publishing superb coffee table books (Interior Design to Garden Design to Photography to Antiques) is looking for an intelligent PA/Sec with excellent secretarial skills and a genuine desire for an unusually interesting job. Your boss is charming, appreciative and needs someone who enjoys using their initiative and dealing with ever-changing priorities. Skills: 80/60. Age 22+. To find out more about this PERMANENT/TEMP-TO-PERM opportunity please call us on

0171-235 8427

**K NIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES E**

## Roadshow Administrator

7.30am-4.30pm  
Circa £20,000 & bonus

International investment company needs an Administrator to support a team and organise roadshows throughout Europe and Asia. You should have experience of co-ordinating major client-related events ideally in a City environment. In addition, you should have an enthusiastic approach and the flexibility to use your hand to any task. In return you will gain a lot of involvement and be part of a fun and fast moving company. Skills: WP, 70wpm shorthand minimum are essential. Age: 25-35. Please fax your CV to Vanessa Mitchell on 0171-390-2997 or post it to 5 Queen St, London EC2N 4DL.

**Crone Corkill**  
Recruitment Consultants

## Senior City Secretaries

£20,000 + MS + O/T + pension + disc bonus - Liverpool St.

Working 10/12 for extremely nice people in a firm that looks after and keeps its staff. Paid overtime but not excessive hours in Corporate Finance? Is this possible in the City today? Yes - if you work for this British Investment House in their rapidly expanding International Corporate Finance division. The job, at Director level, will offer the full range of secretarial opportunities including client liaison and presentation work. For security, smart modern office and good benefits you need Windows, financial experience, fast typing and GCSE/A levels. Age: 25-40. Please call Claire Ashby on 0171-390 7000.

**Crone Corkill**  
Recruitment Consultants

## Under Starters Orders!

£25,000

Our client, a newly arrived and very high-profile lawyer from the USA, means business. He works at an unbelievable pace, has top level contacts with the biggest firms and needs a PA with limitless energy and superb organisational skills. You will have all the resources you need (including a WP centre) to support his requirements for correspondence, reports, travel and meetings. Can you take up the challenge? Do you genuinely enjoy using your skills? If you have been a Director level experience in the professions, 100/70 typing, wordperfect 5.1 and windows knowledge and can take the pace, please telephone Christine Pelling on 0171-390 7000.

**Crone Corkill**  
Recruitment Consultants

## Creative Personnel

£17,000 plus  
West London

Internationally renowned design company needs a personal assistant to co-ordinate the administrative functions within a very busy department. Whilst providing secretarial assistance to the personnel manager, you will also be dealing with recruitment, organising temporary cover, helping with training, inductions, contracts and benefits - there is never a dull moment! If you are currently studying for your IPD's, have at least two years' personal experience, Microsoft Word for Windows, Lotus 123, and 50 wpm typing, then please call Sophie Dowling on 0171-434 4512.

**Crone Corkill**  
Recruitment Consultants

## Hotel Suite....

£19,000 + exc. bens  
PA to GM

Outstanding career opportunity has arisen working for the dynamic General Manager of this international West-End hotel. This is a high profile role which requires excellent interpersonal skills, high levels of energy and an outgoing personality. As part of the executive team you will be involved in strategic planning, participating in executive committee meetings, liaising with VIPs and ensuring the smooth running of the executive office. If you have a sense of humour, hotel experience, good skills (typing 60wpm) and are age 25-35, please call Julia Gainsborough-Waring on 0171 434 4512.

**Crone Corkill**  
Recruitment Consultants

**MEDIA - SHORTHAND TEMPS**  
Do you want to benefit the media world with your secretarial skills? We can offer interesting assignments at top rates. Call Darren Smith on 0171 408 0424 at Tate Appointments.

**Tate**

**EXEC RECEPTION** £18,000 + more sub  
Benefits abound in this prestigious invt bank. Working with another recep, your excellent presentation, communications & prioritising skills will win you a friendly establishment. Liaise with caterers, meet and greet clients. ...Call Claire Martin for more details on 0171 408 0424.

**Tate**

**TIME TO TEMP**  
To £10.00 ph plus overtime  
For stimulating, rewarding, highly paid assignments... Whether you're available for the odd day, long term, temp to perm or a full-time contract we currently have many opportunities - perhaps just the one you've been waiting for! If you are 100% flexible and enthusiastic with good secretarial skills, we can offer you continuous work, top rates and a friendly, efficient service. Call Michelle Lion at Cross Selection on 0171 577 5800 or Fax 0171 577 5806.

**CROSS SELECTION**

**EXHIBITION LICENCE**  
£17K package  
The leading Exhibition Management Consultants has a number of exciting opportunities for secretaries who can undertake a variety of tasks in a fast-paced environment. A permanent position of a liaison officer, in addition to providing support, you will use your flair for layout and chart design to produce important client material. You will have excellent interpersonal skills, be able to cope under pressure and be a proactive self starter. Skills 45wpm. Please call

**0171-814 0800**

All applicants are positively welcomed. Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer.

**Angela Mortimer**

**COLOURFUL CHARACTER**  
£20-24,000  
A highly motivated and a previously owned recruitment agency looking for a PA with pace and poise. He is a colourful character who requires someone to organise his hectic travel needs, entertain clients and research corporate projects. The role requires a sharp mind, business acumen and a flair for organising. Skills 90/60.

**0171-814 0800**

All applicants are positively welcomed. Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer.

**Angela Mortimer**

**PR PA/OFFICE MANAGER** £25K  
The 30 Consultant PR company requires a professional PA/Office Manager. This position will involve a variety of tasks including: PA's looking for further opportunities and responsibility in a dynamic environment. Duties will include day to day running of the office, management of secretaries and providing PA support to 2 MD's. Please call Lisa Kelly.

**PA'S EXECUTIVE SEARCH** £20K  
Dynamic executive search company seeks PA's to work in high level departments. Ideal for those who like to be busy, you will be taking on a variety of tasks including: PA's looking for further opportunities and responsibility in a dynamic environment. Duties will include day to day running of the office, management of secretaries and providing PA support to 2 MD's. Please call Lisa Kelly.

**PUBLISHING SECRETARY** £14K  
Prestigious publishing house requires a secretary for their executive director in the editorial department. With at least one year's secretarial experience you will have superb organisational skills, a cheerful and helpful manner and be able to cope with a fast-paced environment. You will have a typing speed of at least 50wpm and will also have a high degree of computer literacy. Please call Emma Dale.

**SECRETARIAL & TEMPORARY appointments**  
Tel: 0171 579 0333  
Fax: 0171 579 0113  
10 Langley Street  
London WC2E 9JA

**WEST END MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY**  
One of London's top marketing, advertising and sales promotion agencies, currently seeking new secretarial recruits:  
\* Senior secretaries working for Directors - Excellent secretarial skills, including audio and shorthand. Ideally 4-5 years' experience.  
\* Junior copy typists to support senior secretaries. Ideally with 1-2 years' experience.  
Applicants must have ability to work in a busy environment with enthusiasm and good sense of humour.  
WP system: Microsoft Word for Windows.  
Please apply with full CV and current salary details to:  
Diana Dunn, Triangle Communications Limited  
17 Newman Street, London W1P 3HD  
Tel: 0171 637 0322/Fax: 0171 255 2021

**TRIANGLE**

**Le Caprice**  
CAPRICE HOLDINGS LIMITED  
EXECUTIVE PERSONAL ASSISTANT  
£19K plus benefits  
Caprice Holdings Limited incorporates two of London's most prestigious and high profile restaurants. This is a truly demanding role which will be ideally suited to someone who is highly motivated and very dynamic with talents that lie in organisation, administration and problem solving.  
You will be acting as a Business Assistant with some PA responsibilities to the two Directors of the Company and also have responsibility for taking control of your own projects.  
The ideal candidate will have a restaurant/catering background and will possess excellent communication skills and the motivation to contribute to the development of the company.  
If you feel you have the right qualities and background then send your CV to Ms Nicola Georgiades, Human Resources Manager, Caprice Holdings Limited, 28 Litchfield Street, London, WC2E 9JL.  
TIMES NEWSPAPERS PROFUSELY APOLOGISES FOR THE ERRORS WHICH OCCURRED IN LAST WEEK'S ADVERTISEMENT.

**PA to leading Economist**  
£19,000 + Full Banking Benefits  
A very proactive PA is required to support a leading international Economist (director of a major investment bank). A fascinating, demanding and varied role where you will be representing him in his absence - he travels frequently. An interest in current affairs is essential as is the ability to prioritise and think on your feet. Proven PC / admin / secretarial skills essential. Banking experience preferred. Systems used: MS Word for Windows, Excel and databases. Hours 8-6 + Paid overtime.  
Call Emily Aldrich on 0171 588 8999 or Fax CV's on 0171 588 8998

**Aldrich & Co Limited**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**Maine - Tucker**  
Recruitment Consultants  
**BEAT THE WORKING BLUES!**  
£18,000 + BONUS + MED + STL + GYM FACILITIES  
This City company is one of the second biggest of their kind in their home country, and their progress in the UK is fantastic. A fun-loving (a most, essential) PA (80/55) is wanted to help keep a very fun and energetic Director in order! Yes there is secretarial, but your boss will expect you to get really involved in other areas. For a smart and down to earth 25-30 yr old, this is a fantastic opportunity to take on a job that eliminates those working blues.

18-21 Jersey Street, London SW1Y 6EP  
Telephone 0171 734 7341

**Maine - Tucker**  
Recruitment Consultants  
**ALL HANDS ON DECK...**  
£20-£22,000 + PENS + MED + DIS BONUS  
Just about sums up the nature of this job. Working with some genuinely nice people, your role involves supporting an incredibly busy team. Secretarial is the heart of your priorities (80wpm) for a small amount of secretarial is necessary, but your ability to organise and track in under pressure is paramount. Organising roadshows, hotels, seminars, invitations and delegate lists will become second nature to you in this job. If you're in your 20s with proven organising abilities, job call.

18-21 Jersey Street, London SW1Y 6EP  
Telephone 0171 734 7341

**PA - £24,000**  
Working in a fast-moving American company dealing with large international clients is fun. You will support a lively Director - acting as the linchpin with clients and candidates throughout Europe - organising travel, entertainment and undertaking research. You will need excellent communication skills, be computer literate and pro-active to enjoy this unusually challenging role.

**0171 629 9323**  
**DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES**

**THE MEDICAL DEFENCE UNION** needs a **PA/SECRETARY TO THE MARKETING & SALES DIRECTOR**  
to provide personal, secretarial and administrative support to the Marketing & Sales Director and secretarial support to the Corporate Communications team, including fielding press calls from time to time. The post requires a lively and enthusiastic person with a basic understanding of the principles of marketing. The post-holder will need to be committed, work well under pressure, have initiative and a flexible attitude in order to cope with the fast moving and varied nature of the department's work. In addition to excellent secretarial skills, the post-holder will need to deal discreetly with confidential information, have good organisational ability and be able to communicate with staff at all levels.  
Salary £16,700. The MDU has a no-smoking policy. Written applications only, with CV to Miss M-L. Vickers, The Medical Defence Union, 3 Devonshire Place, London, W1N 2EA by 8th November 1995. It is not possible to acknowledge receipt of applications.

**Super Sec/PA**  
£15,000+  
Your word processing is immaculate, you are well organised, you are thorough, you have initiative, you anticipate, you use both efficiency and charm in dealing with people at all levels, you are loyal, you are good-natured, and no task, however small, is beneath you.  
We are MovieFax Ltd, developers of the world's first high-quality fax machine for video such as TV commercials and news clips. Our new offices are in London W1. Our clients are primarily advertising agencies, multinational advertisers and TV/film companies.  
We are looking for someone with experience to support our Managing Director and 2 senior executives. Please send or fax your CV as soon as possible to:  
Dan Levin, MovieFax Ltd, 35 Davies St, London W1V 1FN.  
Fax: 0171 491 7388 (no agencies)

**Maine - Tucker**  
Recruitment Consultants  
**TEMPS - LEGAL**  
UPTO £23,000 + BENEFITS  
This City Company needs an experienced legal temporary legal secretary (min 50wpm) to work in their luxury offices. You'll need to be personable for lots of client contact, have initiative for admin work and generally have your wits about you for a very involved role. If you are 25+ and want a legal position in an exceptional company, please call.

18-21 Jersey Street, London SW1Y 6EP  
Telephone 0171 734 7341

**Maine - Tucker**  
Recruitment Consultants  
**MEDIA MANIA (POWERPOINT)**  
UP TO £16,000  
The enthusiasm, the excitement, the buzz! It's described from the moment you step through the doors of this Central London advertising agency, it's so, go go go! The ads made here are unforgettable, so if you are lively with experience (80wpm) in media, advertising, promo or PR this is the place for you. BUT it's not all glitz and glamour, you'll need to bring some skills to the job like 50wpm, a cool head, powerpoint and great shunt. If you are 18+ and you want a genuinely interesting job, please call.

18-21 Jersey Street, London SW1Y 6EP  
Telephone 0171 734 7341

**GERMAN SPEAKING SENIOR PA/SECRETARY**  
£22,000 + Bens  
We have 2 openings for rapidly expanding European bank in the City.  
1. Must have worked in trading environment. You will be working for Senior American Executive & his team and assist in setting up new department. SH 80wpm, fluent German and confident manner essential. Must be team player.  
2. Working on a 1-1 basis for British MD. This is a true assistant role. You will have SH 80wpm, English MT standard, experience working on a 1-1 basis at senior level. Please call Marnie if you are interested in these opportunities.

**Payce Bilingual**  
Tel: 0171-287 0960 Fax: 0171-494 4652

**ST. JAMES'S SECRETARIAL COLLEGE**  
LEARN NEW SKILLS AND REFRESH OLD ONES  
Short flexible courses in keyboarding and typing shorthand. Software training at introductory and advanced level in:  
MS Word 6.0 for Windows, WordPerfect 6.0 for Windows, AutoPro for Windows, MS Excel 5.0 for Windows and MS PowerPoint offered on a regular basis.

4 Wetherby Gardens  
LONDON SW5 0JN  
Telephone: 0171-244-6700  
A member of the City of London Group

**INTERBRAND**  
Audio-Secretary  
Markforce Associates, Interbrand's in-house trade mark legal practice offering an international service in an area of trade mark clearance, protection and enforcement, seeks a first-class audio secretary. The ideal applicant should have the following skills:  
\* Excellent audio skills (90% of your day)  
\* Excel and Word for Windows - Knowledge of HyperMark useful  
\* Be a flexible team player  
\* Minimum 3 years experience, a legal bias is advantageous.  
If you wish to join this creative 'legal' team and receive the excellent benefits and remuneration please forward your application with a handwritten covering letter to Joan Whalley, Interbrand U.K. Ltd, 40 Long Acre, Covent Garden, London, WC2E 9JT by 1 November 1995.

**For our major client the European Bank for Reconstruction & Development**  
We currently require experienced secretaries with 10 years for a variety of temporary opportunities. A City or financial background would be ideal. Shortlisted always asked.  
If you have the required word processing knowledge and are looking for work within a challenging international environment, supported by an attractive pay and benefits package, please call Shelley Brown on 0171 488 2880.  
Manpower PLC  
78 Fenchurch Street, London EC1.  
**MANPOWER**  
There's more for you

**Our hair's a lot tastier**  
Here's something to tempt you.  
A delicious selection of temporary and permanent secretarial jobs in TV, Film, Arts, Music & Publishing. They're just waiting for you to pick your favourite. Call us now.  
**JUDY FISHER**  
ASSOCIATES  
0171-437 2277  
Recruitment Consultants

**EXCEPTIONAL SECRETARY/ ASSISTANT**  
Sought by West End Antique Gallery. The ideal applicant will be aged between 35-50, self-motivated and able to cope under pressure as part of a small team. First class Secretarial skills, a smart appearance and the ability to deal with clients in an authoritative, calm and capable manner are a prerequisite. Salary C. 20K C.V. to Box No: 0920

**SECRETARY GRADUATE CALIBRE**  
DTZ Debenham Thorpe is Europe's leading firm of International Property Advisers. We are currently seeking a senior secretary to join our investment team in the City. Reporting at Director level, this position involves the provision of a full secretarial and administrative support. This involves a wide range of functions from liaising with international clients to team administration. The successful candidate will be of graduate calibre with a very high standard of presentation together with a highly organised flexible approach to work. Fast and accurate secretarial skills including shorthand are essential. The systems used are WP5.1, Microsoft and Proclama.  
On offer is a competitive remuneration package including interest free STL, BUPA and Permanent Health Insurance. Please apply in writing including salary expectations to Miss Whitley, Personnel Department, 44 Brook Street, London W1A 4AG. Application deadline: Friday 3rd November 1995. (NO AGENCIES)

**DTZ Debenham Thorpe**

**OUTGOING PA/ SECRETARY**  
Working in the Head Office of a growing PLC for two Directors.  
To join our small, professional team you need to be aged 21-26 and have the following skills:  
\* Sound secretarial skills  
\* Good shorthand  
\* Word 6 for Windows and knowledge of Excel  
Please send CV and current salary to:  
Anne-Marie Doll, Wysefield Group PLC,  
29 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7NH

**£15,500 pa.**  
Administrative Assistant required for prestigious American Law School. Must have excellent secretarial skills, be able to deal with American students, faculty and finance staff at once.  
Send C.V. and handwritten cover letter outlining why you would be good for the job to:  
The Director  
Prestigious University  
School of Law  
56 Finner's Gate  
London SW1 2FG

**EXCEPTIONAL SECRETARY/ ASSISTANT**  
Sought by West End Antique Gallery. The ideal applicant will be aged between 35-50, self-motivated and able to cope under pressure as part of a small team. First class Secretarial skills, a smart appearance and the ability to deal with clients in an authoritative, calm and capable manner are a prerequisite. Salary C. 20K C.V. to Box No: 0920

**SECRETARY GRADUATE CALIBRE**  
DTZ Debenham Thorpe is Europe's leading firm of International Property Advisers. We are currently seeking a senior secretary to join our investment team in the City. Reporting at Director level, this position involves the provision of a full secretarial and administrative support. This involves a wide range of functions from liaising with international clients to team administration. The successful candidate will be of graduate calibre with a very high standard of presentation together with a highly organised flexible approach to work. Fast and accurate secretarial skills including shorthand are essential. The systems used are WP5.1, Microsoft and Proclama.  
On offer is a competitive remuneration package including interest free STL, BUPA and Permanent Health Insurance. Please apply in writing including salary expectations to Miss Whitley, Personnel Department, 44 Brook Street, London W1A 4AG. Application deadline: Friday 3rd November 1995. (NO AGENCIES)

**DTZ Debenham Thorpe**

**INTERBRAND**  
Audio-Secretary  
Markforce Associates, Interbrand's in-house trade mark legal practice offering an international service in an area of trade mark clearance, protection and enforcement, seeks a first-class audio secretary. The ideal applicant should have the following skills:  
\* Excellent audio skills (90% of your day)  
\* Excel and Word for Windows - Knowledge of HyperMark useful  
\* Be a flexible team player  
\* Minimum 3 years experience, a legal bias is advantageous.  
If you wish to join this creative 'legal' team and receive the excellent benefits and remuneration please forward your application with a handwritten covering letter to Joan Whalley, Interbrand U.K. Ltd, 40 Long Acre, Covent Garden, London, WC2E 9JT by 1 November 1995.









**FILM**  
From Kathryn Bigelow's *Strange Days* to Martin Scorsese's *Casino*: the London Film Festival revealed



**POP**  
The longer his London Palladium gig went on, the more solemn Loudon Wainwright became

## THE TIMES ARTS



**OPERA**  
English Touring Opera looks in good form as it launches its new tour with *The Barber of Seville*



**TELEVISION**  
A different look for the Bard on the box: BBC TV tries something new for its adaptation of *Henry IV*

# Time for nights to draw in the fans

Geoff Brown is your guide to the delights - and the dross - of the 39th London Film Festival, which opens next week

There are film festivals in the mountains, on lakes, near volcanoes, in places so exotic and weather so balmy that the off-screen delights outweigh whatever unspools on the silver screen. And then there is one by the River Thames. In November.

At any time of the year it is hard to be festive on the South Bank. Yet once the nights draw in and the concrete grows damp, the London Film Festival sets up shop, principally at the National Film Theatre. As prospective customers scan the pages of the official programme, many mutter, as I do, "Do I really want to go down there to see that interesting film from Burundi on Sunday night?"

No wonder one of the recent festival successes has been the "Film on the Square", sponsored by the *Evening Standard*. Here the action shifts over the river, mainly to the Odeon West End in Leicester Square, home of bright lights, many entries and convenient public transport.

The films playing on the Square stay close to the mainstream, and all except a few will be playing commercially before long. The festival's curtain will rise there on November 2 with Kathryn Bigelow's *Strange Days*, a dark, technically audacious vision of life in Los Angeles four years hence, featuring Ralph Fiennes as a seedy hawk of virtual reality disks. On the closing night, November 19, you can see Robert De Niro and Sharon Stone in Martin Scorsese's eagerly awaited gambling saga *Casino*.

You can also watch Woody Allen being funny and pointed in *Mighty Aphrodite*, an inventive comedy on a subject Allen knows a lot about - child pornography. You can even, if you wish, catch *The Sound of Music* again.

This is not quite the kind of cinema the British Film Institute had in mind when it created the London Film Festival 39 years ago. High art, usually with subtitles, rolled then, and you could count the entries on the fingers of two hands. Now you need nearly 200 fingers to keep track of the festival schedule.

There are reasons for this. If the event were smaller, it would not get noticed by the media; and if it concentrated purely on esoteric fare, the BFI would have scant chance of reaping the revenue it wants.



Ralph Fiennes is on the screen - and on the screen - in *Strange Days*. Kathryn Bigelow's view of the immediate future, which opens the London Film Festival

Luckily, Sheila Whitaker, the festival's director, knows how to balance ingredients. For every film like *Leaving Las Vegas*, starring Nicolas Cage, there is one featuring Tao Chung-Hua or King Jieh-Wen, or some other Asian player. For every revival of the boringly well-known *Sound of Music* or *Dr Zhivago*, there is a vintage delight snatched from oblivion by archive restoration.

But even the most refined juggling act cannot obscure one basic problem. If your festival tends to scoop up material from other events rather than scour the planet for discoveries, you are inevitably governed by the quality of new films out and about on the world circuit.

Whitaker's selection is probably as strong as this year's film crop allows. There are some omissions. No *Hain Bas Fragile*, an endearing musical *disfranchisement* from Jacques Rivette, back on meandering, quirky form after the relatively impersonal *Jean La Pucelle*. No *Postman* by He Jianjun, an absorbing character study smuggled out of China for the Rotterdam Film Festival, where it was the audience's favourite. No *Fallen Angels*, a mixed blessing from the Hong Kong daredevil Wong Kar-wai. And Chabrol's Ruth Rendell adaptation, *Judgement in Stone*, originally scheduled, has now been withdrawn by its British distributors.

But, give or take a few dents and holes, you can still use the festival to discover what the world's leading film-makers are up to. Those of a hip disposition may gravitate towards Jim Jarmusch's *Dead Man*, a sluggish existential western, or the latest from Pedro Almodóvar, *The Flower of My Secret*, or Wayne Wang's bright but insubstantial *Smoke*, a trip round the Brooklyn melting pot in the company of Harvey Keitel.

Lovers of French big-budget cinema have *The Horseman on the Roof* to enjoy, although Jean-Paul Rappeneau's lavish tale of war, romance and cholera is not the equal of his *Cyrano de Bergerac*. And, despite its mixed reception at Venice, Antonioni's followers will still be anxious to see *Beyond the Clouds*, four tales of frustrated love, and the first feature the Italian maestro has completed since his stroke in 1985. There may even be some keen to see the new Kenneth Branagh. In the *Bleak Midwinter*, people are funny that way.

But the real joy of any film festival is to find a new talent flexing muscles somewhere in the world. Norway, for instance, Eggs is a tasty comic morsel from Bent Hamer about two aged brothers and their enclosed, bizarre life in an isolated cottage. Placid shots reveal their daily routine: walking up and down stairs, switching on the radio, staring out of windows. The idyll is ruffled by the arrival of an adult son, product of a weekend in Sweden on a moped. Bald-headed and with a child's mind, he sits in bed nursing his collection of eggs. The tone now starts to darken, but Hamer still maintains admirable control. This is a small film, but it lingers long in the mind.

Off-beat comedy of a more frivolous kind arrives with *Augustin*, a one-hour French jape from Anne

Fontaine, spent in the company of a stammering misfit convinced of his great gifts as an actor. The comedy is far too droll to be hurtful. Crossing over to Belgium we find *Manneken Pis*, a first feature by Frank Van Passel, and the best Belgian export since *Toto le Hero*. Both films share a sharp sense of the surreal: Belgium, after all is the land of René Magritte.

There are other distinctive films in the programme that no one should let slip. Marco Tullio Giordana's *Pasolini*, an Italian *Crime* offers a gripping reconstruction of events following the brutal killing of film director and poet Pier Paolo Pasolini.

Among the Asian material, your eyes should focus on the items currently without British distribution. From mainland China, Ning Ying's *On the Beat* delights and disturbs with its wickedly cool portraits of daily life in a Peking police station. Li Shaocheng's *Blush* sinners with visual flourishes and an aching concern for the fortunes of two prostitutes following "retraining" in China of the 1950s. Good

*Men, Good Women*, the latest from Hou Hsiao-Hsien, also demands attention: do not expect an easy ride through the tangled strands of Taiwanese history.

But for any film buff of a scholarly nature, none of the new films can compete with the restorations gathered from the world's archives. Al Jolson's fans will storm the box-office to see their idol in his Vitaphone short *The Plantation Act*. You can stargaze and toe-tap to *Paramount on Parade*, one of the best of Hollywood's early talking blockbusters. You can relish the biblical spectacle of *Sodom and Gomorrah*, made in Austria in 1922 by the future director of *Casablanca*, Michael Curtiz. You can weep gentle tears over Jacques Feyder's lovely *Visages d'Enfants*.

These are rarities that, unlike some of the festival programme, will never reach your local Odeon. Some days you just have to wrap up, go, and brave the South Bank.

Public booking for the London Film Festival opens on Friday at the National Film Theatre bar office, South Bank, London SE1 (0171-428 3232).

## The Bard's best bits

Shakespeare hits our television screens this weekend as never before. Heather Neill reports

On a dozen screens Jane Horrocks as Doll Tearsheet, blonde curls awry, stained shift askew, is laughing contemptuously at Simon McBurney's Pistol for the umpteenth time. Not a murmur of complaint, and each take is as fresh as the first.

Horrocks and McBurney are two of a sturdy cast, including Rufus Sewell, Elizabeth Spriggs, David Calder and Josette Simon, recruited by Annie Castledine (producer) and John Caird (director) for a daring adaptation of *Henry IV* parts 1 and 2, to be broadcast in BBC2's *Performance* slot. Seven hours have been whittled down to a mere two and a half. But this is not just a matter of cutting.

For this is a new conception altogether, a video-shot but filmed telling of Prince Hal's story, in Shakespeare's words, but with no inhibitions about reordering, even reallocation, speeches, not only from the two *Henry IV* plays but *Richard II* (the deposition scene), *Henry VI* part 3, *Henry V* and even *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Caird says there should be "real prizes for spotting" the latter. We are miles away from the Bard on the Box of the Seventies.

Castledine is equally radical: "It is everybody's right to own Shakespeare." But will this audience, perhaps new to Shakespeare, be getting any true experience of the original?

"Forget theatre," says Castledine with missionary vehemence. She chose an experienced RSC director, however, to do the adaptation; an intimate knowledge of (and respect for) the text was essential. Caird had only weeks to prepare the script.

Castledine, well-known as a theatre director herself and committed to making the classics accessible, did a BBC director's course a couple of years ago and became fascinated by the possibilities of the medium.

When I visited the set shooting was typically behind schedule. In a space 100ft by 90ft an entire world had been created. It was magnificent. From the scruffy, smoky warmth of the Boar's Head Tavern, with its real barrels and its rustic table strewn with mussels, bread and (for the moment) polystyrene cups, a visitor wanders along gloomy passages, past a (stuffed) rat, to the cool blue-grey of the court, glimpsing on the way Henry IV's effigy - uncannily like Ronald Pickup, who plays him. There are courtyards and crannies and a council chamber with 30ft pillars.

The set is more naturalistic than most theatres would contemplate, but there is no attempt to recreate the period with the fidelity expected of, say, a television Jane Austen. Which period would it be anyway? Shakespeare had no quains about anachronisms.



Jane Horrocks as Doll Tearsheet and David Calder as Falstaff in the BBC2 adaptation

Ainsworth describes the style of the battle scene (there is only one, Shrewsbury) as abstract, which in practice means shooting in a studio and doing without hundreds of extras. So what else is missing?

**You can do what you like with Shakespeare; he won't buckle**

Glendower and Douglas, what Caird calls "people with the names of English counties talking to each other", the familiar order of events. Caird reckons that he has kept everyone's favourite bits - the Boar's Head scenes, Hal and Hotspur in combat, *Shallow* and *Silence*.

To make Henry's position clear, he begins with Richard II relinquishing his crown (here overheard by Hal and Hotspur as children). To complete Falstaff's story, he has imported the description of his death from *Henry V*. This is played out beside Henry IV's tomb while Hal mourns, neatly summing up Caird's main theme, the relationship between sons and their fathers, real and surrogate.

With a £1 million budget (large for television, but tiny in film terms) he has concentrated on straightforward storytelling. Real people in real situations, the creations of Shakespeare's maturity are, he believes, freed from the accretions of historical epic.

David Calder, who plays Falstaff, believes that "you can do what you like with Shakespeare, and he won't buckle". Shakespeare on television will not provide the same experience as Shakespeare on stage or even on film. Nor should it. The medium requires different techniques. Constraints of time and style are counterbalanced by the freedom provided by technology. The result should be as true to itself as an opera based on Shakespeare, as confident as Shakespeare himself was in his manipulation of English history for artistic ends.

Henry IV is on BBC2 on Saturday at 8.00pm

## Chains in Spain

**OPERA**  
**The Barber of Seville**  
Richmond Theatre

THE rose-pink glow of a pop-up toytown Seville is about to permeate the autumnal mists of Basingstoke. High Wycombe and Weston-super-Mare, as English Touring Opera starts out on a 30-venue itinerary which will keep the company busy between now and next June. Martin Duncan's production, new last February, is efficiently revived by Nicholas Bone, and Francis O'Connor's irresistible sets are in spruce and supple form.

All, though, is not southern light and comfort in this production. Rossini's comedy spins on a pivot of decorative artifice and ugly reality: at times it functions so much like a full-blooded escape drama that it is hard to tell whether this is Seville or the Seraglio. Fitted against the sometimes irritatingly choreographic gesturing of the jollier ensembles is an oppressive sense of shutter as cage, salon as cell.

In the second act, this dark and tyrannical Dr Bartolo (Jonathan May) presides over Seville-as-fortress. Berta is busy soldering the barred doors, and there is razor-wire on every turret. Rosina is manacled. Timothy Lole, conducting, gives space and time enough for these shadows to flicker fleetingly yet convincingly across Rossini's score. He also has the measure of his small band of young, occasionally raw players.

Gwion Thomas holds centre stage as Figaro, debonair in Jermyn Street tweeds and Seville-orange waistcoat, and

is as expansive of character as of voice. He and Andrew Mackenzie-Wicks (Count Almaviva) create a nice double act, though the Count's very English tenor should beware of overload.

Don Basilio (Ashley Thorburn, as dapper of voice as of mien), can seldom resist getting into his music-stand and conducting every ensemble to which he is privy. But this does not deter this canny Rosina. There is as yet more wit and determination in her voice than sensuousness, and the resilience at the core of her performance should stand her, and her colleagues, in good stead for the long weeks ahead on the road.

HILARY FINCH

as an Oprah Winfrey confessional to a concert.

The mawkish mood was interrupted by *I Wish I Was A Lesbian*, a scurrilously entertaining piece of politically incorrect doggerel. But the equally unreconstructed lyric of *Men*, which followed, had a sad, self-pitying tone, which failed to engage anything like the same degree of sympathy.

Perhaps Wainwright was striving too hard for a gravitas to match that of the venue. Or maybe he is just turning into a crotchety old man. But on this occasion, in sharp contrast to his run of club shows at the Borderline three years ago, some of the spring in his step was missing.

DAVID SINCLAIR

"Overwhelming... a superb drama... a performance of stunning intensity from Joseph Fiennes"

Daily Telegraph

**RSC**  
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY  
Presenting the  
ALFRED DOMESTIC

**HENRY IV**

October 25-26  
November 3-4, 6-7, 8-9, 13-14  
and continuing  
in The Pit  
0171 638 8291









Wallace  
as her focus  
few play  
he Great  
One  
pare

Wallace  
as her focus  
few play  
he Great  
One  
pare

Wallace  
as her focus  
few play  
he Great  
One  
pare

Wallace  
as her focus  
few play  
he Great  
One  
pare

Wallace  
as her focus  
few play  
he Great  
One  
pare

Wallace  
as her focus  
few play  
he Great  
One  
pare



**MUSIC 1**  
Barbara Young is proving you're never too young to learn about music. Even if you're a newborn baby



**MUSIC 2**  
On the evidence of their Barbican concert, the RPO will be in good hands with Daniele Gatti

# THE TIMES ARTS



**MUSICAL**  
A man and his music: Al Jolson's life and songs come to the stage in a new West End adaptation



**TOMORROW**  
Small-town girl Nicole Kidman lusts after glory as a television star in the week's big cinema release, *To Die For*

Hilary Finch on the ultimate in early music — the children taught to sing long before they can talk

## Babes in arms in harmony

So how young is Young at Art? Hilary Finch, after all, lies about it in our infancy and Barbara Young, for one, believes in fine-tuning a child from its first hour in this world. Her weekly music classes for newborn babies represent some of the earliest of all early music-teaching in this country.

Born into a musical and thespian family, Young became fascinated by the reactions of peers and parents who assumed that being "musical" was an attribute a child either had or had not. As soon as she graduated, 20 years ago, Young set about testing out some of the issues for herself.

She observed, for a start, that most ante-natal classes gave training solely in physical matters. Parents were appraised of a baby's physical needs, but even when these were attended to, the sensory isolation of the child, especially with two working parents, was a growing cause for concern.

No longer was a child passed from one pair of arms, one speaking or singing voice, to another within an extended family. The image of a child left rocking solitarily in a baby-bouncer, activating a taped story or song, and gazing at a television screen, contrasted sharply with that of, say, an African mother, singing as she worked in the fields with a baby strapped to her, experiencing the rhythms of her body and her voice.

Convinced that children needed re-educating in matters of touch, vocal stimulus and even song repetition, Young complemented her own early career as flautist and head of woodwind in a London borough with the reading of Kodaly, Suzuki and Orff. At the birth of her own first child, she began to develop her own music programme of timbale singing, rhythmic and rhythmic work.

After a year of *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*, among many others, with the baby held close to the mother's body, Young will withdraw one note from the melody, then another and, lo and behold, the child begins to vocalise in perfect pitch and rhythm. She gleefully plays a video in which Robert, one year old, is started off on *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*, and is soon happily crowing his way through every modulation, ornament and developmental passage in sight.

Young believes that parents' musical expectations are unusually low in Britain. "Babies



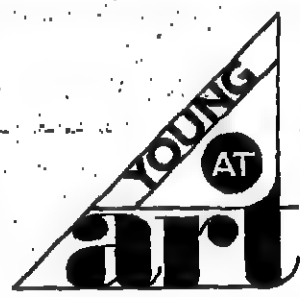
Listening with mothers: "Every baby is musical," says music teacher Barbara Young. "But this fact, and its implications, are not widely known"

can sing before they talk," she says. "But this fact, and its implications, are not widely known. Every baby is musical."

Young started her weekly classes in response to requests from friends. The newborn baby classes are as much for the benefit of the often isolated mother. At 12 months, she brings in more action and movement, starting circle dances and linking melody and rhythm into the naming of the parts of the body. All "instruction" is sung.

For the two-to-four-year-olds' class, the parents take a step back, and the child's play focuses increasingly on speech and percussion.

Last spring, Young visited Jyväskylä in central Finland, where the music conservatoire specialises in training teachers to work with babies and young children. The long-established and widespread practice of ante-natal and baby music classes throughout Finland



has clearly visible links with the country's flourishing and ever-expanding musical activity at every level. Young watched baby massage, eye and ear focusing, much use of the pentatonic scale and of natural sounds, such as running, lapping water.

The borderline between early play and early learning, between the over-rapid acceleration of a child's intellectual learning processes and the slow, yet eager awakening of the consciousness, has never been more blurred. It is ironic

that a nation determined to see its four-year-olds using computers, reading books and writing their names should widely ignore the serious and systematic education of the child's innate, rhythmic, essentially musical faculties at the earliest stages.

It is significant, too, that the recent reports from the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority on the six areas of progress necessary for qualification for government vouchers should place the ability to respond to rhythm in music and dance at the bottom of its list of goals.

Young's work is one of many individual steps being made to redress a now gravely distorted balance. She is keen to emphasise that her work bears no relationship with the making of prodigies. Totally different factors — of physical aptitude, motivation, discipline and determination — are involved here, and most of

them at significantly later stages. She dissuades parents from starting instrumental tuition too early. She is, after all, about a different business. Skills of memory, concentration, movement and confidence certainly seem to be drawn out of her classes; local

doctors are inviting her to their clinics; membership is rapidly increasing. "What I offer," Young says, "is simply something to enrich life."

Barbara Young holds classes in Ealing, West London, every Tuesday afternoon, 2-4.15pm (tel 0181-997 4413)

CONCERTS: Charm and control on the podium; dancing through the years

## Italians at home in another country

ALTHOUGH written when his composer was still a student, the *Cappriccio sinfonico* is unmistakably Puccini — not least because one of its principal motifs is more familiar to us as the opening of *La bohème*. The *Cappriccio* was written before Puccini found his real métier — the first of his operas dates from the following year — but he was just finishing his education at the Milan conservatory and had clearly acquired above average skills at orchestration.

The Royal Philharmonic under Daniele Gatti opened its Barbican concert on Monday night with the *Cappriccio*, and although they did full justice to the work's melodic sweep and sense of bonhomie, there was a moment in the introduction that was truly inspired. As heavy brass gave way to lighter wind and strings, the texture seemed to float, cutting loose from the orchestral foundation to hover magically — a tribute both to the youthful Puccini and to Gatti's sensitivity.

CELEBRATING the relationship between music and dance is like celebrating the relationship between painting and pigment: in that one is the raw material of the other, they are inseparable.

All-inclusive though the theme is, it has at least stimulated thought in the Philharmonic Hall and produced some attractive programmes in this first half of the season — one of the best examples being the combination of Ravel's *Rachmaninov* and Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* for Vernon Handley and taken over in his absence, by Mark Elder.

The genuinely was Michael Tordella's *Bright Blue Music* which, although associated with New York City Ballet, is frustratingly static. A hybrid

RPO/Gatti  
Barbican

In Paganini's Violin Concerto No. 1 he provided the soloist, Shlomo Mintz, with an ideally suave, Rossinian backdrop for his pyrotechnics. Unfortunately, the concerto is barely interesting enough in its musical substance to benefit from nearly tailored phrasing alone. A soloist of showstopping brilliance and charisma might just have rescued it, but Mintz was not to be that man. In fairness, his playing was unimpeachable: a flawless technique up to anything the demon fiddler could throw at him. But Paganini's own playing mesmerised his audience because of his constant risk-taking, and it was that element of danger that was lacking from Mintz's performance. He made it sound all too easy.

The second half of the programme

consisted of Respighi's *Fountains of Rome* and Pines of Rome, and here again the affection and understanding Gatti showed for music of a compatriot produced performances of exceptional quality. There may have been the odd passage where a rapid pianissimo was sustained with difficulty, but there was adequate compensation in the stylish phrasing.

Gatti's graceful gestures inspire the players to shape those lyrical paragraphs with real imagination. But he is sufficiently assured to be able to dispense with unnecessary movement. As the consular army advanced in triumph to the Capitol at the climax of *The Pines of the Appian Way*, he controlled the uncoiling spring with the most minimal of hand movements. Gatti takes over as the Royal Philharmonic's music director next year. In this repertoire, at least, they could not be in better hands.

BARRY MILLINGTON

## Tasteful palette

RLPO/Elder  
Liverpool

of Copland and Richard Strauss, it is brilliantly orchestrated — in all kinds of colours, probably including bright blue for those with an ear for these things — but it has nothing to say and, while postulating a variety of popular and classical dance rhythms, no place to go.

Its most promising quality is that, as the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra so efficiently demonstrated, it creates a virtuosic effect with relatively simple means. Rachmaninov's *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*, for the most part understated in

expression but complex in texture and sensibility, is just the opposite. Given more time, Martin Roscoe and Elder would no doubt have enjoyed negotiating the traps the composer set for them. As it was, they seemed to be concentrating more on survival — which was unwarrantably achieved, but at the expense of wit in the repartee and character in some of the variations.

Rachmaninov's and Ravel's careers ran in parallel for several decades, but never touched at any significant point. A rare example of exchange between them is the

plangent woodwind phrase which opens and recurs in the third of Rachmaninov's *Symphonic Dances* and which seems to be derived from the beginning of the second of Ravel's *Dances nobles et sentimentales*.

Anyway, there they were at opposite ends of the same programme, which was an interesting situation, even if it meant an excess of waltz rhythms for one evening.

Happily, the economic construction of the Ravel discouraged the conductor from the lyrical indulgence which, although certainly necessary in the more discursive Rachmaninov, has to be contained within the dance-driven momentum even there.

GERALD LARNER



COLLECT 30 TOKENS TO WIN £20,000 — PLUS SAVE 10% ON THIS HOLIDAY

## Win a trip to Peru

EVERY DAY until the end of December, *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, in association with Cox & Kings, are offering readers the exclusive chance to win one of 80 holidays for two, to a range of destinations throughout the world. Readers can also enjoy an exclusive 10 per cent discount off all 80 featured holidays and enter our prize draw competition to win £20,000 to spend on an 80-day holiday of a lifetime.

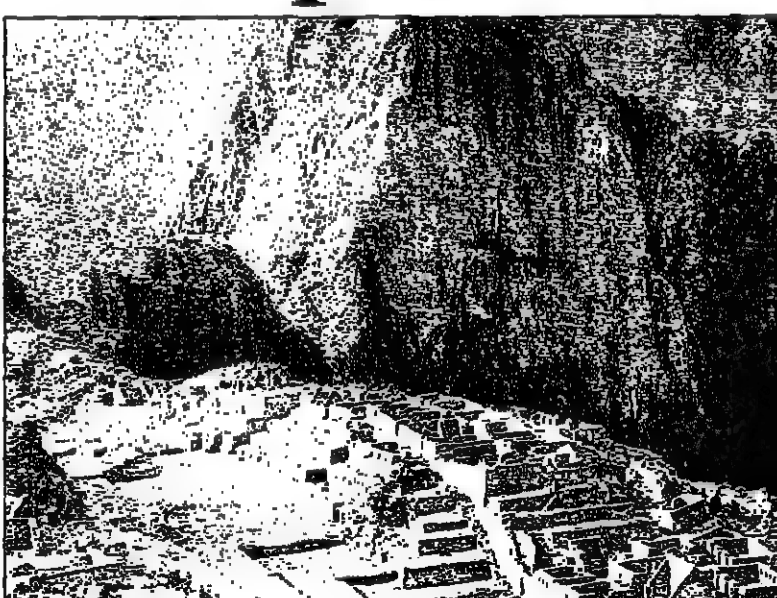
Destinations to be featured include cruises to Tobago and Grenada; holidays in Singapore and Thailand, and trips to Chicago and California.

**HOW TO WIN £20,000**  
Collect 30 of the differently numbered tokens which will appear every day in *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* and you can enter our prize draw to win £20,000 cash. Readers may collect 60 tokens for two chances to enter the draw. An entry form to attach the tokens to will appear in *The Times* every Saturday.

**EMPIRE OF THE INCAS**  
Today's prize is a 14-day holiday to south America, the highlight of which is a train journey through the spectacular Urubamba valley to the lost city of Machu Picchu. Its complex of terraces set in dense, tropical jungle on a remote mountain top make it one of the most awe-inspiring sights in the world. This journey to the Empire of the Incas takes you from the capital, Lima, established by the Conquistador, Pizarro, and rebuilt after an earthquake, to beautiful Arequipa, called the white city because it is made from white granite quarried from the many volcanoes encircling the city. It continues to the border with Bolivia where you see Lake Titicaca, at 3,810 metres above sea level, the highest navigable lake in the world. A train journey through the Andes takes you to Cuzco, ancient capital of the Incas, where Spanish colonial buildings and ancient ruins stand side by side.

**HOW TO SAVE 10 PER CENT**  
The tour is operated by Cox & Kings, the world's oldest travel company and a leading specialist in tours to Latin America and India.

For details of how to get your 10 per cent discount on this holiday, call the brochure hotline on 01369 70 77 11.



**ITINERARY**  
Day 1 Fly to Lima via Amsterdam, with KLM Royal Dutch Airlines. Transfer to the Hotel Crillon for two nights.  
Day 2 Tour of Lima, including the Gold Museum. Day 3 Fly to Arequipa and transfer to the Hotel Portal for one night. Afternoon tour. Day 4 See stunning Colca Canyon, and stay at the Hotel Kolpin. Day 5 Return to the Hotel Portal in Arequipa, where you stay for one night. Day 6 Fly to Juliaca and transfer to the Hotel Esteves in Puno for two nights. Day 7 Visit the floating islands of Lake Titicaca and the ancient graves of Sillustani. Day 8 Day train journey from Lake Titicaca to Cuzco. Stay at Hotel Picoana for two nights. Day 9 Tour Cuzco and the ruins of Sacsayhuaman, Kenko and Tambo Machay. Day 10 Train journey through the Urubamba Valley to Machu Picchu. Afternoon tour of the ruins. Stay overnight at the Hotel Machu Picchu Ruinas. Day 11 Train to Ollantaytambo and drive to Yucay, visiting Ollantaytambo en route. Day 12 Morning visit to Pisac market. Stay in

Cuzco. Day 13 Fly to Lima. Evening flight to London, via Amsterdam. Day 14 Early evening arrival in London.

**DATES OF DEPARTURES**  
17 Jan, 6 Mar, 3 Apr, 22 May, 19 Jun, 31 Jul, 21 Aug, 18 Sep, 9 Oct, 20 Nov 1996  
Prices from £1,768, down from £1,965, include all flights, 12 nights twinshare accommodation, transfers, sightseeing, local escort, breakfast, two lunches and one dinner.

● The winner of Saturday's holiday to Nepal was Mr Colin Gordon of Bedford.  
● The winner of Monday's holiday to Belize was Mrs Karen Hamilton of Grinstead, West Sussex.

## HOW TO WIN TODAY'S PRIZE

To win today's holiday answer the questions below and phone our competition hotline: 0891 40 50 34 which will be open until midnight tonight. The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries received. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.

1. How high is Lake Titicaca?  
2. Which city was once capital of the Inca Empire?

Cells are charged at 38p per minute cheap rate and 48p at all other times.

FOR YOUR 10% DISCOUNT  
CALL FOR A BROCHURE ON:  
01369 70 77 11



TOMORROW: WIN A TRIP TO THE INDIAN JUNGLE







1







# Evans breaks record as Llanelli five find favour

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE red of Llanelli blushed more proudly than usual yesterday with the announcement of the Wales team to play Fiji in Cardiff on November 11: Iwan Evans, their right-wing and the former national captain, will become the most capped international player in Welsh history when he takes the field and surpasses the mark of 55 set by J.P.R. Williams in 1981.

Given the debut cap awarded to Craig Quinell at blind-side flanker and the recall to the centre of Nigel Davies alongside Justin Thomas and Wayne Proctor, the club had every reason for pleasure, but the black of Neath, who play the Fijians in the second match of their CIS-sponsored tour at The Gnu today,

typical, as well as Arnold, is out of action.

"We have picked what we think is the best combination," Geoff Evans, the team manager, said. "Gareth Llewellyn, like others who have not featured since the World Cup, has the opportunity to force his way back in if he plays consistently well."

The Welsh management has divided the season into four phases, of which this match is the second. The third, the five-nations championship, begins with an additional fixture, against Italy in Cardiff on January 17. The end-of-season tour to Australia constitutes the fourth. "We want to see development through those phases which will carry us forward to next season and, beyond that, towards the 1999 World Cup," Evans said.

Gibbs, the Newbridge flanker, was part of a disappointing Wales A side beaten by Fiji last Saturday and surrenders his place to the latest model of the Quinell production line, who follows his father, Derek, and brother, Scott. The selectors hope Craig Quinell will offer greater physical presence and a genuine third option at the line-out.

England have reduced to 28 their training squad for the game against South Africa on November 18 and appear to have put Rory Jenkins on hold. The Harlequins flanker is one of seven players not required to train at Marlow on Sunday, along with Rob Andrew (retired), Ian Hunter (injured), Tim Simpson, Jonathan, Sleighthorne, Andy Gomersall and Richard West.

The international Rugby Football Board has made the first of three significant appointments by inviting Lee Smith to become its resource and development officer. Smith, 48, has been the national director of coaching and development in New Zealand for the past seven years and will take up his new position in January.

Wales: W.J.L. Thomas (Llanelli), I.C. Evans (Llanelli), G. Thomas (Gardens), N. Davies (Llanelli), W.T. Proctor (Llanelli), N. R. Jenkins (Pontypool), A.P. Morris (Cardiff), G.D. Lander (Swansea), M. Humphreys (Cardiff), J.D. Davies (Neath), G. Quinell (Llanelli), A.P. Morris (Swansea), D. Jones (Cardiff), A. M. Bennett (Cardiff), H. Taylor (Cardiff), J. Williams (Cardiff), S.D. Hill (Cardiff), G. Williams (Cardiff), R. H. Jones (Cardiff), S. Williams (Neath), L. Morris (Neath), G. R. Jenkins (Swansea).

remains a sign of mourning. There is no place in the second row for Gareth Llewellyn, their captain, who has been out of favour since the Rugby World Cup last summer.

The XV shows four changes from that beaten 40-11 by South Africa in Johannesburg last month. Davies and Proctor replace Gareth Jones, the centre who has just switched from Bridgend to Cardiff, and Simon Hill, while, in the forwards, Quinell, 20, replaces Andrew Gibbs and Andrew Moore wins his first full cap at lock as a replacement for his injured Swansea colleague, Paul Arnold. Davies, 30, has played his way back thanks to outstanding club form, but Llewellyn is still out in the cold, even though Greg Prosser, of Pon-



Craig Quinell has one eye fixed on his international debut against Fiji next month. Photograph: Huw Evans

## Quinnell extends family dynasty

David Hands on the latest Welsh addition to a renowned international rugby clan

CRAIG QUINNELL, or rather his father, Derek, etched a place in Welsh rugby history yesterday: England and Scotland (once each) and Ireland (twice) have done so, but never before has an international player from the Principality produced two sons who have followed in his footsteps. Now, within two years, Scott and Craig Quinnell will have appeared in a Wales back row.

True, the younger Quinnell must wait until November 11, when Wales play Fiji in Cardiff, to justify the footnote, but clearly there is something in the genes. Indeed, all three have been back-five forwards. Derek, Quinnell, now 23, was a Wales A manager, won 23 caps in the second or back row between 1971 and 1980

and his eldest son, Scott, played nine times in the back row before moving on to Wigan and rugby league.

Yet, at 20, Craig has achieved selection quicker than either father or brother — or even his uncle, Barry John, the former stand-off half — and, though of tender years, he is his own man. "I'm taller than Scott, I'm heavier than he is and play my own game, which is different to his and my father's," he said.

There is a lot of the latest Quinnell (another, Gavin, is still maturing at 11). He stands 6ft 6in and weighs 185lb, big

enough for Llanelli to have played him in the second row initially. Last season, though, he established himself as their blind-side flanker.

It is a source of some regret to Craig that he and his elder brother have not played in the same XV since he was eight and at primary school. A couple of years behind at Graig Comprehensive School, his sixth-form career took him to that noted finishing stable for Wales internationals, Llandovery College, and caps as a Wales Schools lock. The omission, of course, may yet be repaired if the brothers find themselves playing the

## White sees off Prince in charge for crown

By PHIL YATES

JIMMY WHITE, the most popular player wherever snooker pitches its tent, delighted a packed house at the Crowtree Centre, Sunderland, yesterday, as he defeated Jason Prince, of Northern Ireland, 5-0 in the last 16 of the Skoda Grand Prix.

The giant poster that hangs outside the venue speaks volumes for White's appeal. Tapping in on more traditional Wearside pursuits, it reads: "You don't have to go to Roker to see the reds and White." Indeed, White's introduction was the cue for a Roker-like roar and his performance, while not of the highest quality, more than satisfied the audience.

It has been almost three years since White captured the last of his nine world-ranking titles at the 1992 United Kingdom championship. Since then, he and disappointment have gone together like Stephen Hendry and triumph. The 1994-95 season was undoubtedly White's worst since turning professional in 1981. In a concerted effort to regain form, the Londoner, who has slipped to eleventh in provisional world rankings, practised with more intensity than ever throughout the summer.

During his brief stays at the Regal Masters and Thailand Classic, White did little to suggest that his new-found work ethic had paid dividends, but, at this event, there have been encouraging signs of a real revival.

Prince, unaccustomed to the scrutiny of the television cameras, committed a series of elementary mistakes. White, in contrast, won the first frame, stole the second with a last red-to-pink clearance and eventually potted the black to lead 3-0 before completing the whitewash with breaks of 58 and 105.

"Peter Ebdon said earlier this week that the way he was cueing, he should have got to the final," White said. "Mind you, if practice form counted for anything, they could send me the winner's cheque right now. Unfortunately, it does not."

White, the champion in 1986 and 1992, faces Alain Robidoux or John Higgins, the title-holder, in the quarter-finals this evening.

## Kankkunen crashes with title in sight

COLIN McRAE was handed a golden chance to win the world motor rallying championship in front of his home supporters when his chief rival, Juha Kankkunen, crashed out of the Catalonia Rally yesterday. The Finn held the lead in Spain, having won eight of the first 15 tests, but came to grief on the sixteenth special stage.

Misfortune for Kankkunen, four times the world champion, gives McRae, Carlos Sainz and Didier Auriol the opportunity to pip him for the ultimate prize at the Network Q RAC Rally, the final race of the series. In Britain next month, McRae, 27, was in second place — seven points behind Kankkunen — in the world championship, going into this 1,039-mile event, which offers 20 points to the winner. With one special stage remaining and six stages today, Spain's Sainz leads the Scot by five seconds.

## Clinton departs

Cricket: Grahame Clinton, 42, the Surrey coach, yesterday left the county by mutual consent. He joined the Surrey playing staff in 1979 after five years with Kent. Initially, he took over the second XI coaching, two years after his retirement as a player. He masterminded their double — the Rapid Cricketline Second XI Championship and Balm Championship Trophy — in 1992.

## Bledsoe riches

American football: Drew Bledsoe celebrated signing a seven-year, \$42 million (about £27 million) contract by steering the New England Patriots to a 27-14 victory over the Buffalo Bills on Monday night. Bledsoe completed 23 of 40 passes for 262 yards, including a touchdown pass.

## Schuback win

Bowls: Ian Schuback, the 1992 world indoor singles champion, won the Australian indoor singles championship, a qualifying event for next year's world championship, at Tweed Heads yesterday. Schuback swept to a 7-0, 7-3, 7-5 win over Adam Jeffery.

## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Sometimes in an apparently constructive sequence you have to make a bid for which you do not have the values, merely to prevent the opponents coming in. This is an example from a premier league match in the BBL between Casey and Sower.

Dealer South	East-West game	IMPs
♠ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2	♠ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2	♠ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♥ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2	♥ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2	♥ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♦ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2	♦ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2	♦ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♣ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2	♣ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2	♣ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

S	W	N	E
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Contract: Four Clubs by South. Lead: Five of Hearts

I held the North hand. Clearly I didn't have the values to raise Two Clubs constructively. But I was afraid of passing because that would give East an easy way back into the auction, either with a bid of one of the majors or with a double.

As you can see, if South's ace of spades is exchanged with West's two of spades, East-West make Four Hearts or Four Spades.

Over Three Clubs, Senior continued with Three Spades, showing where his remaining values were, in case I could bid 3NT. When I signed off in Four Clubs, he wisely called it a day.

□ The Lederer Memorial Trophy will be played this weekend at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club, 32 Barkston Gardens, Earls Court, Session.

times are 2.00pm and 8.00pm on Saturday (October 28), and 1.00pm on Sunday (October 29). Tickets are £5 per session or £10 for all three, at the door. There is a strong international field which includes the competitive holders, Armagh, Kirby, Price and Czerniewski; the British Junior World Championship team (the Hackett twins, Davies and Souter, and Allerton and Townsend); the "naturals" (including Demetri Marchessini, Forrester and Robson); and the Gold Cup winners (the Tredinnick twins, Rosen and King, and Patterson and Collins). There are also teams representing Ireland and Turkey.

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Philip Howard

DEONTIC  
a. A tooth-mite  
b. To do with duty  
c. Necessary

GIDDEA  
a. Encouragement to a mare  
b. A concrete lamp-post  
c. A spear

ATTAP  
a. Palm thatch  
b. To beg  
c. A Jacuzzi spray

FURPHY  
a. A false report  
b. A baked potato  
c. A sneak thief

Answers on page 44

## KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

### Tactics and strategy

It has been a characteristic of players who have challenged for the world title, without actually gaining the championship, that their main talent lay in tactics and the attack. On the other hand, the champions who have beaten off their onslaughts have tended to exhibit a more rigorous strategic cast of mind.

Thus it was with the Polish Grandmaster David Janowski, whose efforts to unseat Emanuel Lasker founded on Lasker's rock-solid strategic skills. Against lesser lights, though, Janowski was often able to pull off remarkable feats of tactical legendism. Even the great Tarrasch was not immune to this kind of treatment when Janowski felt inspired.

In the following game, Janowski diverts Tarrasch's attention to the queen's flank. However, at the crucial moment White switches fronts and lands a series of devastating sacrificial blows which strip away all protection from the black king.

White: David Janowski  
Black: Seibert Tarrasch  
Ostend 1905

London System	
1 ♠4	c5
2 Nf3	c5
3 d3	e6
4 Bf4	Qb6
5 Qb3	Nf6
6 c3	Nc8
7 h3	Bc7
8 Nd2	Bd7
9 Be2	O-O
10 O-O	Rc8
11 Ne5	Bb8
12 Bg3	Nd7
13 Nc3	N8

By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation from the game Kasparov - Anand, Intel World Championship, Game 10 1995. The black king is very exposed but if White does not act quickly he may be able to find safety on the kingside. How can White avoid this possibility?

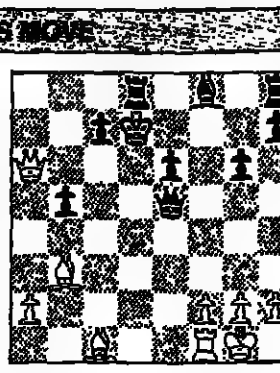
Solution on page 44

14 Rd1	Na5
15 Qa2	Q4
16 Nd2	B8
17 Ne3	Bg6
18 Qc1	h6
19 Nf2	Qc8
20 Bf3	b5
21 e4	Nc6
22 f4	exd5
23 Re1	b4
24 Nf1	tcx3
25 fxc3	Qc5
26 Na3	B7
27 Qc2	Ba3
28 Ra1	Nd7
29 Re7	Nb6
30 Nf5	Qa6
31 Nd4+	gxf5
32 Re7	Kd7
33 Qxh6	Kg8
34 Qg6+	Kf8
35 Qd6+	Kg8
36 Qg6+	Kh8
37 Re5	Black resigns



Times world championship book  
All games of the world title match are now available with commentary by Raymond Keene in a Times book, *World Chess Championship: Kasparov v Anand* (Batsford £9.99). Credit card orders on 01376 327901 (please quote 5/655).

□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.



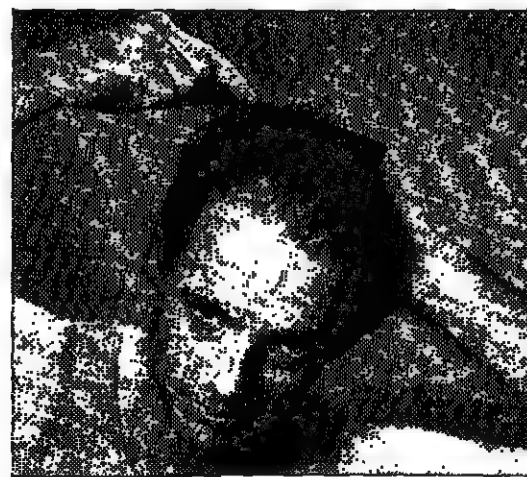
## Thinning hair? Don't trust an advertisement. Trust your pharmacist.

Many products claim to check hair loss, but only one can prove it. Regaine® is a unique treatment developed by Upjohn, a leading medical company which has spent £1.4 billion on medical research in the last 5 years alone. Independent clinical studies show that, applied twice daily, Regaine checks hair loss in 80% of people — with some

### TESTS SHOW IT CAN HELP HAIR REGROWTH TOO

- Regaine checks hair loss in 4 out of 5 people.
- 2 out of 5 actually experienced regrowth.
- Results continued as long as treatment did.

even regrowing hair, after just 4 months' use. And results continued as long as treatment did. Only Regaine contains



Minoxidil solution, the sole treatment clinically proven to check advancing baldness. Which is why doctors have been prescribing this treatment for seven years. You could start seeing

results within months. So if you want the serious treatment for thinning hair, discover Regaine: now available from your local pharmacist

Regaine. The only hair loss treatment ever proven to work.

Now available from your pharmacist

Contains Minoxidil

\*Trade mark

Always read the label











# Secret world of Havelange under threat

By ROB HUGHES  
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

AS ONE Brazilian star, Juninho, rises in the North-East, another, João Havelange, is on the wane. Juninho, one of the smallest but most creative players in football, now belongs to Middlesbrough, all bar the smallest of small print. Havelange, big and lugubrious, has run the politics and finances of Fifa, the game's world governing body, for 21 years, but, though reports of the decline of Havelange's autocratic power have been premature in the past, never has he been undermined as he is now.

In Seoul yesterday afternoon, Chung Mong-Joon, the man leading South Korea's bid to stage the World Cup finals in 2002 and a vice-president of Fifa, made a

speech at a symposium that, in effect, castigated the administration as run by Havelange. He noted that television viewership of the World Cup is significantly more popular than the Olympic Games, but added: "World Cup marketing



Chung, seeking change

and television rights must be reviewed. More transparency is needed. Historically, the process and decision-making on the marketing and television contracts have been handled by very few people behind closed doors. I believe that will change."

Specifically, Chung, who has been an insider on the Fifa executive for little more than a year, believes that it is astonishing that the body's committees were not party to decisions affecting the financing of the world games. He did not spell out the fact that Havelange, with his senior vice-president, Guillermo Canedo, and the general secretary, Sepp Blatter, had, virtually alone, signed television agreements for three World Cups.

Yet Chung's voice, added to a similar call for transparency

in the negotiating process by the presidents of the European and African governing bodies, means that three-fifths of the international football authorities have now openly questioned rule by Havelange. When Lennart Johansson, the president of Uefa, and Issa Hayatou, the head of the massive African voting block, wrote to Havelange using the same request for "transparency", the autocratic Brazilian threw a tantrum in the committee chamber and dismissed them as interlopers. On December 9, he and the full executive committee will vote on proposals led by Uefa to begin a new constitutional rotation of the World Cup from continent to continent.

They will do so against the background that money talks loudest in football, as in virtually everything else.

"There has already been talk of a \$1 billion-bid for the TV rights to the 2002 World Cup," Chung told his audience yesterday. "My understanding is that we should aim at twice that amount: the marketing and TV rights for the 2002 World Cup are worth \$2 billion. This is more than 20 times the amount achieved for USA '94."

Referring to the written bid of \$1 billion, from the International Management Group (IMG) and a subsidiary company of the German publishing group Bertelsmann, revealed in *The Times* during August, Chung is of the belief that at least one other genuine counter-bidder is ready to enter the market. Furthermore, pledging that all profits from 2002, should Korea beat Japan to host that tournament, would be given to

football. Chung specifically stated that this money, which he said yesterday could be as much as \$300 million, should be distributed on a ratio of one-tenth to Fifa, but nine-tenths to the football confederations.

"Of the 169 nations who have entered the 1998 competition," he concluded, "probably only 60 or so have any real prospect of making it into the final 32 in France. As things stand, only the teams that reach the final stages would receive any share of profits. This means the top 32 footballing nations in the world receive money which will help them consolidate their position, while the rest fall further and further behind." The grass roots, he believes, must be better served and far more people must make the financial decisions.

## Supporters' abuse forces Still to quit Peterborough

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

TEN weeks into the season, football had farewell to a sixth manager yesterday when John Still resigned from Peterborough United, the club seventh in the Endleigh Insurance League second division. There is a long way to go to match the blood-letting of last season, when 54 managers parted company with their clubs before the end of May, but the momentum is growing.

Still, 45, joins Frank Burrows, of Swansea City, in jumping before he was possibly pushed. The other four — Mike Walsh, of Bury, Sam Ellis and Steve Wicks, of Lincoln City, and Graham Barrow, of Wigan Athletic — were dismissed. Wicks, after succeeding Ellis in early September, lasted only 41 days. Still's decision followed Peterborough's 3-0 defeat away to Brentford on Saturday and increasing criticism from the club's supporters. "There comes a time when you have to turn and walk away and, for me, that point arrived on Saturday," he said. "Some of the abuse was disgusting. It hurt me and affected some of our younger players."

After successful spells in non-league football with Darford, Maidstone United and Dagenham and Redbridge, Still took over at London Road in May last year, shortly after the club was relegated. However, Peterborough's expected promotion challenge last season failed to materialise and they finished fifteenth.

Mick Halsall, a former Pe-

terborough player and Still's assistant, has been appointed caretaker-manager and will be in charge for the match against York City at London Road on Saturday. David Pleat, the Sheffield Wednesday manager, has not made the most distinguished of starts at Hillsborough, with Wednesday a moderate twelfth in the FA Carling Premiership, but he made a determined attempt to do something about it yesterday when he signed Darko Kovacevic and Dejan Stefanovic.

Johan Cruyff, the Barcelona coach, was suspended for five matches and fined 500,000 pesetas (£2,600) for insulting the referee, Manuel Diaz Vega, during a Spanish league match against Valencia on Sunday. Barcelona won 1-0. It was the sixth time that Cruyff has received a red card since he took charge at the club.

from Red Star Belgrade. Wednesday paid about £4 million for the Yugoslav pair, both 21, but may have to wait up to a month for their work permits to be processed by the Department of Employment. It is expected to take at least three weeks for the initial formalities to be completed.

"We have to wait to see whether everything will be acceptable to the English FA. Fifa [the world governing body] and the DoE," Pleat said, "All that we know is that

the clubs are happy and the players are happy. Everyone knows we are looking for high-quality players and these two certainly fit the bill."

Stefanovic is a defender while Kovacevic, a striker, has scored 42 goals in 45 games for Red Star. Pleat was keen to finalise the signings as swiftly as possible, to end the reported interest of clubs in Italy and Spain.

It is not Pleat's first venture into the European market and probably not his last, as the asking prices for English players have spiralled out of control. He bought Marc Degryse from Anderlecht for £1.5 million during the summer and also took Slobodan Dubajic, the Yugoslav defender, on trial from VfB Stuttgart recently.

Three weeks after completing their momentous victory over Manchester United, York City, the Endleigh second division side, seek to add the Premiership scalp of Queens Park Rangers to their collection tonight and reach the last 16 of the Coca-Cola Cup.

The teenage goalkeeper, Andy Warrington, will again deputise for the injured Dean Kiely at Lotus Road and Alan Little, the York manager, believes his side's task will be harder still. "If Rangers take us for granted they could be in trouble, but my side will have to play out of their skins to get through," Little said.

Stoke City and Millwall are also seeking second victories over Premiership sides, at home to Newcastle United and Wednesday respectively.



Pleat, the Wednesday manager, is looking forward to fielding his new signings

## United spurn Italians' advances

By PETER BALL

WHATEVER their deficiencies as suitors, Italians do not lack persistence. Manchester United, however, feel it is about time Internazionale of Milan accepted "no" for an answer in their pursuit of Eric Cantona.

Yesterday, Martin Edwards, the United chairman, rejected Inter's latest attempt to prise the player from Old Trafford. "How many more times do we have to say that Eric will not be leaving Manchester United?" Edwards said. "After everything that we as a club and Eric as a person have been through over the past year, can anyone seriously think we would sell

him now? Eric is not for sale. It is as simple as that."

"I cannot stop other clubs from revealing that they would like to sign Eric, but it is becoming a bit tedious having this constant speculation involving Inter."

Inter have been linked with Cantona since his sending off at Crystal Palace in January, with Massimo Moratti, their president, making no secret of his desire to sign the Frenchman. Cantona's decision to sign a new contract with United did not cool Inter's ardour and it was revived this week by their new coach, Roy Hodgson. The answer, however, remains the same. United's performance at Chelsea on Saturday suggested

that the club's future is bright and there is no incentive for Cantona to leave, or for United to sell him.

Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said: "It is not even a question of money. We simply cannot afford to let any of our senior players leave at the moment — and certainly not one of Eric's quality and influence. I have not had any contact with anyone from Inter, but they are wasting their time."

Across Manchester, Alan Ball, the City manager, prepared for this evening's Coca-Cola Cup tie at Anfield by inquiring about a Liverpool player. Ball confirmed yesterday that he had asked about signing Nigel Clough, al-

though lack of money will preclude any transfer at the moment.

"Nigel is the type of player I like," Ball said. "He is a neat player with good skills. I've spoken to Roy Evans about him. There isn't the money at the moment, but if some became available, he is a player I would like to sign."

Blackburn Rovers confirmed yesterday that Paul Warhurst has asked for a transfer. Warhurst, who can play in defence, midfield or as a striker, was unhappy after being omitted from last Saturday's squad at West Ham United, after playing in a European Cup Champions' League game in Poland the previous Wednesday.

## Surrey club tries to line up Jansher

By COLIN MCQUILAN

JANSHER KHAN, the world champion, who was banned by the Super Squash League for failing to win a dead rubber for the Welsh Wizards in last season's play-offs, before being reinstated on appeal, may now ignore the top professional team competition this season in favour of a role in the club-based SRA National League.

A late bid by Abshot Country Club in Farnham, Surrey, to join the two-pool National League is based on Jansher's agreement to be listed for the squad in company with the world junior champion, Ahmed Barada, of Egypt. Martin Heath, the Scottish No. 2, and the famous Goernsey woman, Marlene Le Moignan and Lisa Opie, who retired from international competition last year.

The Abshot bid has SRA approval, but depends on the acceptance of clubs already registered for group A of the National League, which began last week. "Group A needs another club to equal the six competing in group B," Ken Vigiers, the new Abshot owner, said. "The possibility of players of this stature, appearing in local clubs around the country would certainly appeal to spectators."

Jansher, who defeated Simon Parke, of England, in the final of the US Open on Monday, may be attracted by the mounting enthusiasm for the National League, which has been endorsed by many leading players. All but three of England's top 16 women have signed up for the competition's first season.

## Stubborn Becker clears first hurdle

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

BORIS BECKER returned to competition after injury with a typically stubborn performance in the Essen Open in Germany yesterday.

Becker, the Wimbledon champion on three occasions, has been struggling to overcome a back injury for the past three weeks, but showed no signs of distress as he gained a 7-6, 6-4 second-round victory over Magnus Gustafsson, of Sweden.

Becker, ranked No. 4 in the world, is hoping to clinch a place at next month's world championship with some victories on Europe's best indoor courts, his favourite surface after grass.

Becker needs points from the Essen event, which has attracted almost all of the world's leading players, if he is to keep his ranking and

quality for the Frankfurt championship, which brings together the top eight players. Yesterday's victory was certainly a step in the right direction. "The back is 95 per cent there and it is getting better day by day. It's always hard to start again, but I'm happy with my performance," Becker said. The win over Gustafsson, who is ranked No. 91 in the world, was not one of the German's vintage performances, but he varied his game well when he was put under pressure in the second set.

Yevgeny Kafelnikov, of Russia, who was the only other seed in action yesterday, also had to battle hard to earn his place in the third round. He needed three sets to overcome his compatriot, Alexander Volkov, 6-4, 2-6, 6-1.

## But why did Swift do it?

Seeing Things Invisible. Radio 4, 7.45pm.

For this drama-documentary about Jonathan Swift, fellow Irishman Anthony Clare quits the room that houses his imaginary psychiatrist's chair, so familiar to Radio 4 listeners. We now find him in his real-life environment — Dublin's St Patrick's Hospital, of which he is medical director. St Patrick's, one of Europe's finest psychiatric establishments, was built thanks to a £12,000 bequest from Swift. *Seeing Things Invisible* examines two opposed views about whether Swift was mad, and why the great satirist founded the hospital. Was it, as Clare believes, a philanthropic gesture? Or was this Swift's final satire act because, as he once wrote, no nation needed a refuge for "idiots and lunatics" so much?

Who Sings the Hero? The Butterfly Hunt. Radio 4, 2.00pm.

Why on earth has the story of Ursula Bower not made it to the cinema screen? Just think of it: an English anthropologist leading a tribe of Nagas headhunters into action in Japan's threatened Burma. More than that: she was put in command of a platoon of Gurkhas too. To say that Ursula Bower was indomitable is seriously to underestimate her iron will, as well as her remarkable song-finding. As enemy bombers roared overhead, she surveyed the handful of weapons she and her jungle scouts possessed and all she could say was "What a pickled! Matthew Solon wrote *The Butterfly Hunt*. Surely the inadequate title was not his, too?" Peter Daville

RADIO 1	WORLD SERVICE
<p>5.00am News, 5.15am News, 5.30am News, 5.45am News, 6.00am News, 6.15am News, 6.30am News, 6.45am News, 7.00am News, 7.15am News, 7.30am News, 7.45am News, 8.00am News, 8.15am News, 8.30am News, 8.45am News, 9.00am News, 9.15am News, 9.30am News, 9.45am News, 10.00am News, 10.15am News, 10.30am News, 10.45am News, 11.00am News, 11.15am News, 11.30am News, 11.45am News, 12.00am News, 12.15am News, 12.30am News, 12.45am News, 1.00am News, 1.15am News, 1.30am News, 1.45am News, 2.00am News, 2.15am News, 2.30am News, 2.45am News, 3.00am News, 3.15am News, 3.30am News, 3.45am News, 4.00am News, 4.15am News, 4.30am News, 4.45am News, 5.00am News.</p>	<p>All times in GMT. 5.00am News, 5.30am News, 6.00am News, 6.30am News, 7.00am News, 7.30am News, 8.00am News, 8.30am News, 9.00am News, 9.30am News, 10.00am News, 10.30am News, 11.00am News, 11.30am News, 12.00am News, 12.30am News, 1.00am News, 1.30am News, 2.00am News, 2.30am News, 3.00am News, 3.30am News, 4.00am News, 4.30am News, 5.00am News, 5.30am News, 6.00am News, 6.30am News, 7.00am News, 7.30am News, 8.00am News, 8.30am News, 9.00am News, 9.30am News, 10.00am News, 10.30am News, 11.00am News, 11.30am News, 12.00am News, 12.30am News, 1.00am News, 1.30am News, 2.00am News, 2.30am News, 3.00am News, 3.30am News, 4.00am News, 4.30am News, 5.00am News.</p>
RADIO 2	RADIO 3
<p>5.00am News, 5.15am News, 5.30am News, 5.45am News, 6.00am News, 6.15am News, 6.30am News, 6.45am News, 7.00am News, 7.15am News, 7.30am News, 7.45am News, 8.00am News, 8.15am News, 8.30am News, 8.45am News, 9.00am News, 9.15am News, 9.30am News, 9.45am News, 10.00am News, 10.15am News, 10.30am News, 10.45am News, 11.00am News, 11.15am News, 11.30am News, 11.45am News, 12.00am News, 12.15am News, 12.30am News, 12.45am News, 1.00am News, 1.15am News, 1.30am News, 1.45am News, 2.00am News, 2.15am News, 2.30am News, 2.45am News, 3.00am News, 3.15am News, 3.30am News, 3.45am News, 4.00am News, 4.15am News, 4.30am News, 4.45am News, 5.00am News.</p>	<p>5.00am News, 5.15am News, 5.30am News, 5.45am News, 6.00am News, 6.15am News, 6.30am News, 6.45am News, 7.00am News, 7.15am News, 7.30am News, 7.45am News, 8.00am News, 8.15am News, 8.30am News, 8.45am News, 9.00am News, 9.15am News, 9.30am News, 9.45am News, 10.00am News, 10.15am News, 10.30am News, 10.45am News, 11.00am News, 11.15am News, 11.30am News, 11.45am News, 12.00am News, 12.15am News, 12.30am News, 12.45am News, 1.00am News, 1.15am News, 1.30am News, 1.45am News, 2.00am News, 2.15am News, 2.30am News, 2.45am News, 3.00am News, 3.15am News, 3.30am News, 3.45am News, 4.00am News, 4.15am News, 4.30am News, 4.45am News, 5.00am News.</p>
RADIO 5 LIVE	RADIO 4
<p>5.00am News, 5.15am News, 5.30am News, 5.45am News, 6.00am News, 6.15am News, 6.30am News, 6.45am News, 7.00am News, 7.15am News, 7.30am News, 7.45am News, 8.00am News, 8.15am News, 8.30am News, 8.45am News, 9.00am News, 9.15am News, 9.30am News, 9.45am News, 10.00am News, 10.15am News, 10.30am News, 10.45am News, 11.00am News, 11.15am News, 11.30am News, 11.45am News, 12.00am News, 12.15am News, 12.30am News, 12.45am News, 1.00am News, 1.15am News, 1.30am News, 1.45am News, 2.00am News, 2.15am News, 2.30am News, 2.45am News, 3.00am News, 3.15am News, 3.30am News, 3.45am News, 4.00am News, 4.15am News, 4.30am News, 4.45am News, 5.00am News.</p>	<p>5.00am News, 5.15am News, 5.30am News, 5.45am News, 6.00am News, 6.15am News, 6.30am News, 6.45am News, 7.00am News, 7.15am News, 7.30am News, 7.45am News, 8.00am News, 8.15am News, 8.30am News, 8.45am News, 9.00am News, 9.15am News, 9.30am News, 9.45am News, 10.00am News, 10.15am News, 10.30am News, 10.45am News, 11.00am News, 11.15am News, 11.30am News, 11.45am News, 12.00am News, 12.15am News, 12.30am News, 12.45am News, 1.00am News, 1.15am News, 1.30am News, 1.45am News, 2.00am News, 2.15am News, 2.30am News, 2.45am News, 3.00am News, 3.15am News, 3.30am News, 3.45am News, 4.00am News, 4.15am News, 4.30am News, 4.45am News, 5.00am News.</p>
TALK RADIO	RADIO 5
<p>5.00am News, 5.15am News, 5.30am News, 5.45am News, 6.00am News, 6.15am News, 6.30am News, 6.45am News, 7.00am News, 7.15am News, 7.30am News, 7.45am News, 8.00am News, 8.15am News, 8.30am News, 8.45am News, 9.00am News, 9.15am News, 9.30am News, 9.45am News, 10.00am News, 10.15am News, 10.30am News, 10.45am News, 11.00am News, 11.15am News, 11.30am News, 11.45am News, 12.00am News, 12.15am News, 12.30am News, 12.45am News, 1.00am News, 1.15am News, 1.30am News, 1.45am News, 2.00am News, 2.15am News, 2.30am News, 2.45am News, 3.00am News, 3.15am News, 3.30am News, 3.45am News, 4.00am News, 4.15am News, 4.30am News, 4.45am News, 5.00am News.</p>	<p>5.00am News, 5.15am News, 5.30am News, 5.45am News, 6.00am News, 6.15am News, 6.30am News, 6.45am News, 7.00am News, 7.15am News, 7.30am News, 7.45am News, 8.00am News, 8.15am News, 8.30am News, 8.45am News, 9.00am News, 9.15am News, 9.30am News, 9.45am News, 10.00am News, 10.15am News, 10.30am News, 10.45am News, 11.00am News, 11.15am News, 11.30am News, 11.45am News, 12.00am News, 12.15am News, 12.30am News, 12.45am News, 1.00am News, 1.15am News, 1.30am News, 1.45am News, 2.00am News, 2.15am News, 2.30am News, 2.45am News, 3.00am News, 3.15am News, 3.30am News, 3.45am News, 4.00am News, 4.15am News, 4.30am News, 4.45am News, 5.00am News.</p>
RADIO 3	RADIO 4
<p>5.00am News, 5.15am News, 5.30am News, 5.45am News, 6.00am News, 6.15am News, 6.30am News, 6.45am News, 7.00am News, 7.15am News, 7.30am News, 7.45am News, 8.00am News, 8.15am News, 8.30am News, 8.45am News, 9.00am News, 9.15am News, 9.30am News, 9.45am News, 10.00am News, 10.15am News, 10.30am News, 10.45am News, 11.00am News, 11.15am News, 11.30am News, 11.45am News, 12.00am News, 12.15am News, 12.30am News, 12.45am News, 1.00am News, 1.15am News, 1.30am News, 1.45am News, 2.00am News, 2.15am News, 2.30am News, 2.45am News, 3.00am News, 3.15am News, 3.30am News, 3.45am News, 4.00am News, 4.15am News, 4.30am News, 4.45am News, 5.00am News.</p>	<p>5.00am News, 5.15am News, 5.30am News, 5.45am News, 6.00am News, 6.15am News, 6.30am News, 6.45am News, 7.00am News, 7.15am News, 7.30am News, 7.45am News, 8.00am News, 8.15am News, 8.30am News, 8.45am News, 9.00am News, 9.15am News, 9.30am News, 9.45am News, 10.00am News, 10.15am News, 10.30am News, 10.45am News, 11.00am News, 11.15am News, 11.30am News, 11.45am News, 12.00am News, 12.15am News, 12.30am News, 12.45am News, 1.00am News, 1.15am News, 1.30am News, 1.45am News, 2.00am News, 2.15am News, 2.30am News, 2.45am News, 3.00am News, 3.15am News, 3.30am News, 3.45am News, 4.00am News, 4.15am News, 4.30am News, 4.45am News, 5.00am News.</p>
RADIO 4	RADIO 5
<p>5.00am News, 5.15am News, 5.30am News, 5.45am News, 6.00am News, 6.15am News, 6.30am News, 6.45am News, 7.00am News, 7.15am News, 7.30am News, 7.45am News, 8.00am News, 8.15am News, 8.30am News, 8.45am News, 9.00am News, 9.15am News, 9.30am News, 9.45am News, 10.00am News, 10.15am News, 10.30am News, 10.45am News, 11.00am News, 11.15am News, 11.30am News, 11.45am News, 12.00am News, 12.15am News, 12.30am News, 12.45am News, 1.00am News, 1.15am News, 1.30am News, 1.45am News, 2.00am News, 2.15am News, 2.30am News, 2.45am News, 3.00am News, 3.15am News, 3.30am News, 3.45am News, 4.00am News, 4.15am News, 4.30am News, 4.45am News, 5.00am News.</p>	<p>5.00am News, 5.15am News, 5.30am News, 5.45am News, 6.00am News, 6.15am News, 6.30am News, 6.45am News, 7.00am News, 7.15am News, 7.30am News, 7.45am News, 8.00am News, 8.15am News, 8.30am News, 8.45am News, 9.00am News, 9.15am News, 9.30am News, 9.45am News, 10.00am News, 10.15am News, 10.30am News, 10.45am News, 11.00am News, 11.15am News, 11.30am News, 11.45am News, 12.00am News, 12.15am News, 12.30am News, 12.45am News, 1.00am News, 1.15am News, 1.30am News, 1.45am News, 2.00am News, 2.15am News, 2.30am News, 2.45am News, 3.00am News, 3.15am News, 3.30am News, 3.45am News, 4.00am News, 4.15am News, 4.30am News, 4.45am News, 5.00am News.</p>

### INTERROGATE YOUR CURRENT ACCOUNT

Can you give me low overdraft rates with no monthly fee?

If your bank account won't provide low overdraft rates with no monthly fee, credit interest of up to 5% gross p.a. and a £100 cheque guarantee/debit and cash card, there is an account that can.

And if your bank can't offer 24 hour personal telephone banking, find out about the Alliance Account from Alliance & Leicester. For more details, phone us today or return the coupon.

Call FREE on 0500 95 95 95 or complete coupon and return to Alliance & Leicester, Building Society, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 31



# On not being beastly about nature films

Rarely have I seen anything more stupid than last night's *Accuse on a Wolf* (Channel 4). It concerned natural history programmes, and was presented by an armchair naturalist, spitting insults at the animal kingdom from his armchair. The thesis was this: that natural history programmes are guilty of the most terrible crimes of presenting animals solely in terms of sex and violence (ie, they leave out more benign animal activities such as shopping and washing up).

"These are snuff movies," the armadillo snarled, in belligerent scowl. "Natural history has run amok. Cameramen use lights to represent moonlight. They are only interested in sharks and fionts. They misrepresent animal social structures in a sexist way," by referring to "dominant males" and "barrens." They are "party political

broadcasts on behalf of the Right-wing Party".

A couple of these points were quite sensible, actually; but the scramble to substantiate the stupid ones was transparently desperate, and entailed old crackly clips from kind-of-Danish nature documentaries, which would nowadays be laughed off the screen as laughable. The programme was a suicide leap, apparently, by pushing the poor beggars off a cliff when they didn't want to go. But what relevance does that have? Meanwhile, lions and sharks are simply not the mainstay of natural history programmes. Recent successes for the BBC have been the sea otter, the rural fox, and (ironically) the armadillo.

The sad thing about this *Accuse* was that, actually, viewers are always intrigued by the tricks of natural history television — by which bits are filmed in zoos, enclosures or tanks, for example.

So here was a missed opportunity to say something useful. But how daft to charge natural history programmes with making an animal's life look more eventful than it really is. The interesting bits compressed into half an hour — whoever heard of that? *Brookside*, the best as a result of all this screen action, were the most interesting. When they touch down in Africa, they expect their first walk across the airport to be interrupted by a lioness pouncing on a wildebeest, followed by, er, sharks.

The only good aspect to this *Accuse* was that it starkly highlighted the role of the manicured soundbite in the trite and formulaic nature documentary, and I want forthwith to launch a campaign to release Philip Dodd (editor of *Sight and Sound*) from this grossly "unnatural" and humiliating, servitude to popular artifice. In

## REVIEW



Lynne Truss

fact, I accuse... *Accuse*! Filmed amid jungle shrubbery, each media head volunteered a quota of single-sentence points, but poor timeless Dodd was the cruelly exploited star turn, whom they clearly never allowed to go home. It was Dodd who invented "the party political broadcast on behalf of the Right-wing Party"; he also said that natural history programmes were "the Merchant

Ivory of television". So many quotable aperçus in half an hour? Gosh, I do hope there wasn't any compression of reality involved.

Elsewhere on this rather dreary night, Network First: *Fear and Counting* in Las Vegas (ITV) was a suitably lame-led, pointless 60 minutes about Dominic O'Brien, a professional British memory man with 1970s haircut and dark moustache, attempting to win a blackjack in American casinos. He regularly lost large sums, however, which was intriguing but not explained. Was he failing to remember the cards? Or was the presence of a film crew blowing his cover? Mostly his success or failure seemed to depend on luck and judgment — just like the success or failure of anybody else.

The scale and tacky glamour of American gambling was a surprise, but O'Brien's perfectly legal mission — to win money by hidden advantage — was hardly edifying.

Meanwhile, as he is a fairly ordinary bloke, his commentary was an eight-deck shoe of clichés — in Las Vegas, "the atmosphere is electric"; "I feel as though I've died and gone to heaven"; Philip Dodd, where are you? I take it all back.

Two new linked series — *Nice Work* and *Tools of the Trade* — started on BBC2 and cheered things up a bit. Filmed in the cool, glossy manner of Nicholas Barker's *Signs of the Times*, they were slightly over-stylish celluloid essays about redundancy and office desks, in that order. Leanne Klein's *Nice Work* film, *Thank You and Goodbye*, contained testimonies of cruel sackings, and infiltrated a management seminar on the art of firing, where a flip-chart offered helpful key words such as Shock, Anger and Denial. In between each section, the screen faded to black, and an ominous headline

appeared, such as "You've heard the rumours, Dave".

Simon Nye's office sitcom *Is It Legal?* (ITV) came to the end of its run on television, when *Lovestruck* Bob (Patrick Barlow) leapt to his feet for Mr Bappys' delivery girl, and in an extravagant arm move, swept everything off the desk onto the floor. In *EastEnders* (BBC1), on the other hand, Michelle has simply walked out on her job, because on Thursday she departs for America, or Scotland, or... what?

Last night's *EastEnders* was farcical, with Michelle's indecision pushed to such mad extremes that I fully expected Lofty to walk in, or Lou to come back from the dead. Should Michelle tell Grant about the baby? (No!) Should she go to Scotland with Geoff? ("Mmm") All drama is based on choice, of course. But it is possible to take a principle too far.

- BBC1**
- 6.00am Business Breakfast (25/57)
  - 7.00am BBC Breakfast News (56/44/68)
  - 9.05am News (56/22/58)
  - 10.00am News (Castex), regional news and weather (56/46/16)
  - 10.05am Housewives (1) (16/99/22)
  - 10.35am Good Morning with Anne and Nick (1) (17/30/45)
  - 12.00pm News (Castex) (41/45/18)
  - 12.05pm Pebble Mill (1) (74/40/51)
  - 12.50pm Regional news and weather (48/51/40/3)
  - 1.00pm One O'Clock News (Castex) (51/42/5)
  - 1.30pm News (Castex) (51/42/5)
  - 1.50pm News (Castex) (51/42/5)
  - 2.35pm News (Castex) (51/42/5)
  - 3.05pm Inconceivable: Game show presented by Peter Smith (1) (25/39/22)
  - 3.30pm Ants in Your Pants (1) (50/78/30/5)
  - 3.50pm Chuzzlewit (1) (1) (50/78/30/5)
  - 4.10pm Get Your Own Back (1) (1) (50/78/30/5)
  - 4.35pm Pinetops (1) (1) (50/78/30/5)
  - 5.00pm News (Castex) (51/42/5)
  - 5.10pm News (Castex) (51/42/5)
  - 5.35pm News (Castex) (51/42/5)
  - 6.00pm Six O'Clock News (Castex) and weather (57/0)
  - 6.30pm Regional news magazines (52/2)
  - 7.00pm This Is Your Life presented by Michael Aspel (Castex) (1) (50/78)
  - 7.30pm As Time Goes By, with John Dench and Geoffrey Palmer (1) (1) (50/78)
  - 8.00pm How Do They Do That? Eamonn Holmes and Jenny Hull reveal how computer games are made. Plus the finer aspects of the golf ball and mazes (Castex) (1) (50/78)
  - 8.45pm Points of View: Anna Robinson presents views on programmes (Castex) (1) (50/78)
  - 8.55pm Party Political Broadcast by the Liberal Democrats (56/47/0)
  - 9.00pm Nine O'Clock News (Castex), regional news and weather (51/0/0)
  - 9.30pm One Foot in the Grave: We Have Put her Living in the Tomb. Victor and Margaret are entrusted with the care of the tomb for a week, while they are decorating. With Richard Wilson and Annabel Croft (1) (Castex) (1) (50/78)



A scene from *Blackout Afternoon* (CA, 11.35pm)

- BBC2**
- 6.00am Technology Season: Wall to Wall (56/32/3) 6.30am Heavenly Bodies (56/25/4)
  - 7.00am Breakfast News (Castex and signing) (46/50/38)
  - 7.15pm Lennie (1) (51/23/3) 7.40pm Pinetops of Dark Water (1) (56/42/0/0) 8.05pm Pinetops (1) (56/42/0/0)
  - 8.35pm The Record: Yesterday in Parliament (1) (56/78/10)
  - 9.00pm Daytime on Two: Educational programmes, Plus, for children, 10.00-10.25pm Playdays (15/40/40)
  - 2.00pm Johnson and Friends (1) (12/40/40)
  - 2.10pm Smoother: The Shode Grand Prix (1), Includes, at 3.00pm News (Castex) and weather (51/41/06) 3.55pm News (Castex) and weather (51/41/06)
  - 4.00pm Today's the Day (1) (83/5)
  - 4.30pm Smoother from Sunderland (1) (83/54)
  - 6.00pm Star Trek: The Next Generation. (Castex) (1) (27/41/87)
  - 6.45pm FILM: Planet Earth (1974) starring John Saxon, Diana Mulcahy, Janet Morgan and Ted Cassidy. A man is put in suspended animation and transported to the 22nd century. Directed by Marc Daniels. (Castex) (56/28/0/0). Wales: Delta Stream (70/25/1) 7.15-8.30pm FILM: Planet Earth (1974) (40/53/30)



A scene from *Blackout Afternoon* (CA, 11.35pm)

- CHOICE**
- 6.00am GMTV (76/57/67)
  - 6.55pm Supermarket Sweep (1) (51/59/23)
  - 9.55pm London Today (Teletext) (18/44/77)
  - 10.00pm The Time... the Place (1) (56/27/45)
  - 10.35pm This Morning Magazine show (39/36/35)
  - 12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (41/34/03)
  - 12.30pm ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) (56/54/56)
  - 12.55pm Home and Away (Teletext) (50/34/77)
  - 1.25pm Coronation Street (1) (Teletext) (22/30/72/9)
  - 1.55pm Strand Street (1) (51/57/32)
  - 2.20pm Vanessa: Multiple Partners (Teletext) (1) (44/60/19)
  - 2.50pm Material World (56/25/31)
  - 3.20pm ITN News (Teletext) (13/34/21)
  - 3.25pm London Today (Teletext) (27/35/62)
  - 3.30pm Alphabet Castle (1) (47/71/77) 3.40pm Wizards (1) (48/25/0) 3.50pm The Story Store (1) (47/75/53) 4.05pm Animaniacs (1) (Teletext) (1) (83/60/51)
  - 4.15pm TIGS: Live computer games by telephone (1) (71/67/0)
  - 4.45pm Bad Influence (1) (22/31/08)
  - 5.10pm After 5 with Caron Keating, Denise Welch's singing debut. (Teletext) (16/20/25)
  - 5.40pm ITN Evening News (Teletext) (53/78/35)
  - 5.55pm Your Short Viewers' opinions (51/54/15)
  - 6.00pm Home and Away (1) (Teletext) (55/8)
  - 6.30pm London Tonight (Teletext) (36/0)
  - 7.00pm Wheel of Fortune with Nicky Campbell (1) (45/77)
  - 7.30pm Coronation Street: Whose house will the Malletts buy? (Teletext) (27/4)
  - 8.00pm Police, Camera, Action! Tales of the Unexpected. Alastair Stewart presents more previously unseen footage of British motorists at their worst (1) (53/35)

- CARTLON**
- 6.00am GMTV (76/57/67)
  - 6.55pm Supermarket Sweep (1) (51/59/23)
  - 9.55pm London Today (Teletext) (18/44/77)
  - 10.00pm The Time... the Place (1) (56/27/45)
  - 10.35pm This Morning Magazine show (39/36/35)
  - 12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (41/34/03)
  - 12.30pm ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) (56/54/56)
  - 12.55pm Home and Away (Teletext) (50/34/77)
  - 1.25pm Coronation Street (1) (Teletext) (22/30/72/9)
  - 1.55pm Strand Street (1) (51/57/32)
  - 2.20pm Vanessa: Multiple Partners (Teletext) (1) (44/60/19)
  - 2.50pm Material World (56/25/31)
  - 3.20pm ITN News (Teletext) (13/34/21)
  - 3.25pm London Today (Teletext) (27/35/62)
  - 3.30pm Alphabet Castle (1) (47/71/77) 3.40pm Wizards (1) (48/25/0) 3.50pm The Story Store (1) (47/75/53) 4.05pm Animaniacs (1) (Teletext) (1) (83/60/51)
  - 4.15pm TIGS: Live computer games by telephone (1) (71/67/0)
  - 4.45pm Bad Influence (1) (22/31/08)
  - 5.10pm After 5 with Caron Keating, Denise Welch's singing debut. (Teletext) (16/20/25)
  - 5.40pm ITN Evening News (Teletext) (53/78/35)
  - 5.55pm Your Short Viewers' opinions (51/54/15)
  - 6.00pm Home and Away (1) (Teletext) (55/8)
  - 6.30pm London Tonight (Teletext) (36/0)
  - 7.00pm Wheel of Fortune with Nicky Campbell (1) (45/77)
  - 7.30pm Coronation Street: Whose house will the Malletts buy? (Teletext) (27/4)
  - 8.00pm Police, Camera, Action! Tales of the Unexpected. Alastair Stewart presents more previously unseen footage of British motorists at their worst (1) (53/35)

Nick Berry takes celebrity photos (8.30pm)

- CHANNEL 4**
- 6.35am Heathcliff (1) (54/37/54)
  - 7.00pm The Big Breakfast (57/74/8)
  - 9.00pm Mork and Minky. Comedy series (51/57/35)
  - 9.55pm Saved by the Bell: The New Class. Lindsay is obsessed with appearing in a dance show on television (1) (56/27/21)
  - 10.30pm The Legend of White Fang (1) (18/62/21)
  - 10.50pm The Pink Panther Show (1) (31/41/06)
  - 11.15pm Little Shop (1) (51/54/53) 11.25pm Dennis (1) (28/39/03)
  - 12.00pm House to House (28/53)
  - 12.30pm Sesame Street (71/16)
  - 1.30pm Lift Off (1) (1) (43/38)
  - 2.00pm Motion Painting. Animated film by Oskar Fischinger. (Teletext) (22/42/56/4)
  - 2.15pm FILM: Daddy (1987). Television film starring Dermot Mulroney and Patricia Arquette as teenage parents. Written and directed by John Herzfeld (30/54/5)
  - 4.00pm Think Tank (Teletext) (1) (50/3)
  - 4.30pm Fifteen to One (Teletext) (1) (18/7)
  - 5.00pm Rikidale. Women who have changed their hair colour. (Teletext) (1) (17/53/08)
  - 5.45pm Terrytoons. Sadaat; followed by Murnin Buchansangur (54/74/8)
  - 6.00pm My So-Called Life: On the Wagon. Teenage drama series. (Teletext) (1) (56/80)
  - 7.00pm Channel 4 News (Teletext). (12/85/4)
  - 7.55pm The Slot. Viewers' views (45/72/1)
  - 8.00pm Brookside. Role gains an ally but loses a son; Mandy's visitor turns nasty; Katie develops a wandering eye; while Max has a close call at home. (Teletext) (1) (74/77)
  - 8.30pm Absolutely Animals. The last in the series reports on endangered species in Australia. (Teletext) (1) (52/12)
  - 9.00pm Dispatches. (Teletext) (1) (51/72/2)

- CHOICE**
- 6.00am GMTV (76/57/67)
  - 6.55pm Supermarket Sweep (1) (51/59/23)
  - 9.55pm London Today (Teletext) (18/44/77)
  - 10.00pm The Time... the Place (1) (56/27/45)
  - 10.35pm This Morning Magazine show (39/36/35)
  - 12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (41/34/03)
  - 12.30pm ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) (56/54/56)
  - 12.55pm Home and Away (Teletext) (50/34/77)
  - 1.25pm Coronation Street (1) (Teletext) (22/30/72/9)
  - 1.55pm Strand Street (1) (51/57/32)
  - 2.20pm Vanessa: Multiple Partners (Teletext) (1) (44/60/19)
  - 2.50pm Material World (56/25/31)
  - 3.20pm ITN News (Teletext) (13/34/21)
  - 3.25pm London Today (Teletext) (27/35/62)
  - 3.30pm Alphabet Castle (1) (47/71/77) 3.40pm Wizards (1) (48/25/0) 3.50pm The Story Store (1) (47/75/53) 4.05pm Animaniacs (1) (Teletext) (1) (83/60/51)
  - 4.15pm TIGS: Live computer games by telephone (1) (71/67/0)
  - 4.45pm Bad Influence (1) (22/31/08)
  - 5.10pm After 5 with Caron Keating, Denise Welch's singing debut. (Teletext) (16/20/25)
  - 5.40pm ITN Evening News (Teletext) (53/78/35)
  - 5.55pm Your Short Viewers' opinions (51/54/15)
  - 6.00pm Home and Away (1) (Teletext) (55/8)
  - 6.30pm London Tonight (Teletext) (36/0)
  - 7.00pm Wheel of Fortune with Nicky Campbell (1) (45/77)
  - 7.30pm Coronation Street: Whose house will the Malletts buy? (Teletext) (27/4)
  - 8.00pm Police, Camera, Action! Tales of the Unexpected. Alastair Stewart presents more previously unseen footage of British motorists at their worst (1) (53/35)

- CARTLON**
- 6.00am GMTV (76/57/67)
  - 6.55pm Supermarket Sweep (1) (51/59/23)
  - 9.55pm London Today (Teletext) (18/44/77)
  - 10.00pm The Time... the Place (1) (56/27/45)
  - 10.35pm This Morning Magazine show (39/36/35)
  - 12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (41/34/03)
  - 12.30pm ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) (56/54/56)
  - 12.55pm Home and Away (Teletext) (50/34/77)
  - 1.25pm Coronation Street (1) (Teletext) (22/30/72/9)
  - 1.55pm Strand Street (1) (51/57/32)
  - 2.20pm Vanessa: Multiple Partners (Teletext) (1) (44/60/19)
  - 2.50pm Material World (56/25/31)
  - 3.20pm ITN News (Teletext) (13/34/21)
  - 3.25pm London Today (Teletext) (27/35/62)
  - 3.30pm Alphabet Castle (1) (47/71/77) 3.40pm Wizards (1) (48/25/0) 3.50pm The Story Store (1) (47/75/53) 4.05pm Animaniacs (1) (Teletext) (1) (83/60/51)
  - 4.15pm TIGS: Live computer games by telephone (1) (71/67/0)
  - 4.45pm Bad Influence (1) (22/31/08)
  - 5.10pm After 5 with Caron Keating, Denise Welch's singing debut. (Teletext) (16/20/25)
  - 5.40pm ITN Evening News (Teletext) (53/78/35)
  - 5.55pm Your Short Viewers' opinions (51/54/15)
  - 6.00pm Home and Away (1) (Teletext) (55/8)
  - 6.30pm London Tonight (Teletext) (36/0)
  - 7.00pm Wheel of Fortune with Nicky Campbell (1) (45/77)
  - 7.30pm Coronation Street: Whose house will the Malletts buy? (Teletext) (27/4)
  - 8.00pm Police, Camera, Action! Tales of the Unexpected. Alastair Stewart presents more previously unseen footage of British motorists at their worst (1) (53/35)

Nick Berry takes celebrity photos (8.30pm)

- CHANNEL 4**
- 6.35am Heathcliff (1) (54/37/54)
  - 7.00pm The Big Breakfast (57/74/8)
  - 9.00pm Mork and Minky. Comedy series (51/57/35)
  - 9.55pm Saved by the Bell: The New Class. Lindsay is obsessed with appearing in a dance show on television (1) (56/27/21)
  - 10.30pm The Legend of White Fang (1) (18/62/21)
  - 10.50pm The Pink Panther Show (1) (31/41/06)
  - 11.15pm Little Shop (1) (51/54/53) 11.25pm Dennis (1) (28/39/03)
  - 12.00pm House to House (28/53)
  - 12.30pm Sesame Street (71/16)
  - 1.30pm Lift Off (1) (1) (43/38)
  - 2.00pm Motion Painting. Animated film by Oskar Fischinger. (Teletext) (22/42/56/4)
  - 2.15pm FILM: Daddy (1987). Television film starring Dermot Mulroney and Patricia Arquette as teenage parents. Written and directed by John Herzfeld (30/54/5)
  - 4.00pm Think Tank (Teletext) (1) (50/3)
  - 4.30pm Fifteen to One (Teletext) (1) (18/7)
  - 5.00pm Rikidale. Women who have changed their hair colour. (Teletext) (1) (17/53/08)
  - 5.45pm Terrytoons. Sadaat; followed by Murnin Buchansangur (54/74/8)
  - 6.00pm My So-Called Life: On the Wagon. Teenage drama series. (Teletext) (1) (56/80)
  - 7.00pm Channel 4 News (Teletext). (12/85/4)
  - 7.55pm The Slot. Viewers' views (45/72/1)
  - 8.00pm Brookside. Role gains an ally but loses a son; Mandy's visitor turns nasty; Katie develops a wandering eye; while Max has a close call at home. (Teletext) (1) (74/77)
  - 8.30pm Absolutely Animals. The last in the series reports on endangered species in Australia. (Teletext) (1) (52/12)
  - 9.00pm Dispatches. (Teletext) (1) (51/72/2)

Jonny and Neil come out fighting (8.45pm)

- CHOICE**
- 6.00am GMTV (76/57/67)
  - 6.55pm Supermarket Sweep (1) (51/59/23)
  - 9.55pm London Today (Teletext) (18/44/77)
  - 10.00pm The Time... the Place (1) (56/27/45)
  - 10.35pm This Morning Magazine show (39/36/35)
  - 12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (41/34/03)
  - 12.30pm ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) (56/54/56)
  - 12.55pm Home and Away (Teletext) (50/34/77)
  - 1.25pm Coronation Street (1) (Teletext) (22/30/72/9)
  - 1.55pm Strand Street (1) (51/57/32)
  - 2.20pm Vanessa: Multiple Partners (Teletext) (1) (44/60/19)
  - 2.50pm Material World (56/25/31)
  - 3.20pm ITN News (Teletext) (13/34/21)
  - 3.25pm London Today (Teletext) (27/35/62)
  - 3.30pm Alphabet Castle (1) (47/71/77) 3.40pm Wizards (1) (48/25/0) 3.50pm The Story Store (1) (47/75/53) 4.05pm Animaniacs (1) (Teletext) (1) (83/60/51)
  - 4.15pm TIGS: Live computer games by telephone (1) (71/67/0)
  - 4.45pm Bad Influence (1) (22/31/08)
  - 5.10pm After 5 with Caron Keating, Denise Welch's singing debut. (Teletext) (16/20/25)
  - 5.40pm ITN Evening News (Teletext) (53/78/35)
  - 5.55pm Your Short Viewers' opinions (51/54/15)
  - 6.00pm Home and Away (1) (Teletext) (55/8)
  - 6.30pm London Tonight (Teletext) (36/0)
  - 7.00pm Wheel of Fortune with Nicky Campbell (1) (45/77)
  - 7.30pm Coronation Street: Whose house will the Malletts buy? (Teletext) (27/4)
  - 8.00pm Police, Camera, Action! Tales of the Unexpected. Alastair Stewart presents more previously unseen footage of British motorists at their worst (1) (53/35)

Nick Berry takes celebrity photos (8.30pm)

- CHANNEL 4**
- 6.35am Heathcliff (1) (54/37/54)
  - 7.00pm The Big Breakfast (57/74/8)
  - 9.00pm Mork and Minky. Comedy series (51/57/35)
  - 9.55pm Saved by the Bell: The New Class. Lindsay is obsessed with appearing in a dance show on television (1) (56/27/21)
  - 10.30pm The Legend of White Fang (1) (18/62/21)
  - 10.50pm The Pink Panther Show (1) (31/41/06)
  - 11.15pm Little Shop (1) (51/54/53) 11.25pm Dennis (1) (28/39/03)
  - 12.00pm House to House (28/53)
  - 12.30pm Sesame Street (71/16)
  - 1.30pm Lift Off (1) (1) (43/38)
  - 2.00pm Motion Painting. Animated film by Oskar Fischinger. (Teletext) (22/42/56/4)
  - 2.15pm FILM: Daddy (1987). Television film starring Dermot Mulroney and Patricia Arquette as teenage parents. Written and directed by John Herzfeld (30/54/5)
  - 4.00pm Think Tank (Teletext) (1) (50/3)
  - 4.30pm Fifteen to One (Teletext) (1) (18/7)
  - 5.00pm Rikidale. Women who have changed their hair colour. (Teletext) (1) (17/53/08)
  - 5.45pm Terrytoons. Sadaat; followed by Murnin Buchansangur (54/74/8)
  - 6.00pm My So-Called Life: On the Wagon. Teenage drama series. (Teletext) (1) (56/80)
  - 7.00pm Channel 4 News (Teletext). (12/85/4)
  - 7.55pm The Slot. Viewers' views (45/72/1)
  - 8.00pm Brookside. Role gains an ally but loses a son; Mandy's visitor turns nasty; Katie develops a wandering eye; while Max has a close call at home. (Teletext) (1) (74/77)
  - 8.30pm Absolutely Animals. The last in the series reports on endangered species in Australia. (Teletext) (1) (52/12)
  - 9.00pm Dispatches. (Teletext) (1) (51/72/2)

Jonny and Neil come out fighting (8.45pm)

- CHOICE**
- 6.00am GMTV (76/57/67)
  - 6.55pm Supermarket Sweep (1) (51/59/23)
  - 9.55pm London Today (Teletext) (18/44/77)
  - 10.00pm The Time... the Place (1) (56/27/45)
  - 10.35pm This Morning Magazine show (39/36/35)
  - 12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (41/34/03)
  - 12.30pm ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) (56/54/56)
  - 12.55pm Home and Away (Teletext) (50/34/77)
  - 1.25pm Coronation Street (1) (Teletext) (22/30/72/9)
  - 1.55pm Strand Street (1) (51/57/32)
  - 2.20pm Vanessa: Multiple Partners (Teletext) (1) (44/60/19)
  - 2.50pm Material World (56/25/31)
  - 3.20pm ITN News (Teletext) (13/34/21)
  - 3.25pm London Today (Teletext) (27/35/62)
  - 3.30pm Alphabet Castle (1) (47/71/77) 3.40pm Wizards (1) (48/25/0) 3.50pm The Story Store (1) (47/75/53) 4.05pm Animaniacs (1) (Teletext) (1) (83/60/51)
  - 4.15pm TIGS: Live computer games by telephone (1) (71/67/0)
  - 4.45pm Bad Influence (1) (22/31/08)
  - 5.10pm After 5 with Caron Keating, Denise Welch's singing debut. (Teletext) (16/20/25)
  - 5.40pm ITN Evening News (Teletext) (53/78/35)
  - 5.55pm Your Short Viewers' opinions (51/54/15)
  - 6.00pm Home and Away (1) (Teletext) (55/8)
  - 6.30pm London Tonight (Teletext) (36/0)
  - 7.00pm Wheel of Fortune with Nicky Campbell (1) (45/77)
  - 7.30pm Coronation Street: Whose house will the Malletts buy? (Teletext) (27/4)
  - 8.00pm Police, Camera, Action! Tales of the Unexpected. Alastair Stewart presents more previously unseen footage of British motorists at their worst (1) (53/35)

Nick Berry takes celebrity photos (8.30pm)

- CHANNEL 4**
- 6.35am Heathcliff (1) (54/37/54)
  - 7.00pm The Big Breakfast (57/74/8)
  - 9.00pm Mork and Minky. Comedy series (51/57/35)
  - 9.55pm Saved by the Bell: The New Class. Lindsay is obsessed with appearing in a dance show on television (1) (56/27/21)
  - 10.30pm The Legend of White Fang (1) (18/62/21)
  - 10.50pm The Pink Panther Show (1) (31/41/06)
  - 11.15pm Little Shop (1) (51/54/53) 11.25pm Dennis (1) (28/39/03)
  - 12.00pm House to House (28/53)
  - 12.30pm Sesame Street (71/16)
  - 1.30pm Lift Off (1) (1) (43/38)
  - 2.00pm Motion Painting. Animated film by Oskar Fischinger. (Teletext) (22/42/56/4)
  - 2.15pm FILM: Daddy (1987). Television film starring Dermot Mulroney and Patricia Arquette as teenage parents. Written and directed by John Herzfeld (30/54/5)
  - 4.00pm Think Tank (Teletext) (1) (50/3)
  - 4.30pm Fifteen to One (Teletext) (1) (18/7)
  - 5.00pm Rikidale. Women who have changed their hair colour. (Teletext) (1) (17/53/08)
  - 5.45pm Terrytoons. Sadaat; followed by Murnin Buchansangur (54/74/8)
  - 6.00pm My So-Called Life: On the Wagon. Teenage drama series. (Teletext) (1) (56/80)
  - 7.00pm Channel 4 News (Teletext). (12/85/4)
  - 7.55pm The Slot. Viewers' views (45/72/1)
  - 8.00pm Brookside. Role gains an ally but loses a son; Mandy's visitor turns nasty; Katie develops a wandering eye; while Max has a close call at home. (Teletext) (1) (74/77)
  - 8.30pm Absolutely Animals. The last in the series reports on endangered species in Australia. (Teletext) (1) (52/12)
  - 9.00pm Dispatches. (Teletext) (1) (51/72/2)

Jonny and Neil come out fighting (8.45pm



WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 25 1995

Hard-hitting Stewart enjoys gentle introduction to tour

## England savour victory stroll

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON  
IN RANDIESPONTAIN

UNDER a piercing sun, on a tent-ringed ground that would not have looked out of place in the Vale of Evesham, England's cricketers opened their South Africa tour yesterday with a comfortable victory, by 112 runs, over Nicky Oppenheimer's XI. In reply to England's 242 for five (Stewart's lunchtime "retirement" counted as a wicket, the hot-potatoes were dismissed for 130 with ten overs remaining.

All a touring team can do in this sort of undemanding game is win it, and gather whatever blessings may accrue. Stewart's 74, made out of 147 for one before he left the batting to others, was his first innings for three months, and he turned his straight drives pleasingly enough. He also held a good slip catch when Gibbs tried to run Illingworth to third man.

There were other benefits. Ramprakash's 48 included some perky strokes. Malcolm took a wicket with his fifth ball and Illingworth ended with five for 48, including three wickets in nine balls. Less happily, the inventory also reveals that Crawley and Smith were out to shots that they have been known to play before. It is early, though, and there is plenty of cricket ahead when their minds will be set more vigorously on the job in hand.

On a bucolic occasion like this — Arrived in May might be the English equivalent — the English is supposed to adorn the day. Spectators in the marquee had paid £100 for their pleasures and, though there was evidence of much imbibing, the crowd was restrained, at least until Page thumped Illingworth straight for three times. The public address announcement that Michael Atherton was leading the first official England team in South Africa for 31 years brought a ripple of applause, rather than a wave.

In other respects, it was not at all like Arrived. At lunchtime, some light-fingered chap made off with the bowlers' marks, as if they would be any use to anybody away from a cricket field. During the afternoon a member of the English



Teeger, the Nicky Oppenheimer XI wicketkeeper, watches as Stewart plunders more runs yesterday. Photograph: Graham Morris

press corps was denied access by some jobsworth to the handsome pavilion when he sought to interview Geoffrey Toyana, from Soweto, a member of the Oppenheimer team. Things used to be very different.

Atherton, who never looked at his most composed, put on 66 for the first wicket with Stewart. He was missed twice, by Page at gully when he was 13 and again on 32 when he

slogged a "doodlebug" from the veteran left-arm, Kourie, to mid-on, where Atkinson, acting as twelfth man, put down the sort of chance a half-decent cricketer should hold.

Stewart's innings was not without blemish. On 27, he was dropped twice, in successive overs from Kourie. Page, at point this time, committed a howler and Williams, making ground from long-off towards the sightscreen, let the ball slip between his hands and across the boundary. Taken together, this attack of butterfingers was reminiscent of prep-school cricket and any schoolmaster worth his salt would surely have slipped them on the spot.

After Stewart had supped his fill, Williams brought one back into Ramprakash. Crawley, aiming through mid-on,

ENGLAND XI	
M A Atherton b Page	34
A J Stewart retired, out	74
M R Ramprakash b Williams	48
M P Crawley c Oppenheimer	14
D M Benkenstein b Gough	10
R A Smith c Teeger b Williams	12
R I G Russell not out	36
M Watson not out	15
Extras (p 3, nb 7)	10
Total 15 wickets, 242	
D Gough, M C Lee, R K Illingworth and D E Malcolm did not bat.	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-55, 2-147, 3-170, 4-183, 5-205.	
BOWLING: Shorby 11-3-24-0; Williams 12-2-49-2; Page 10-2-35-0-1; Kourie 10-2-36-0; Benkenstein 12-1-63-1; Oppenheimer 4-0-19-0.	

OPPENHEIMER XI	
M Yachad b Malcolm	2
R F Pienaar b Page	25
G Toyana c Watson b Illingworth	28
D M Benkenstein b Gough	10
H H Gibbs c Stewart b Illingworth	10
H A Page c Russell b Illingworth	22
S Shorby not out	6
N Teeger c and b Watson	9
N Oppenheimer not out	13
H S Williams b Watson	13
A Kourie c Gough b Illingworth	3
Extras (p 1, nb 2)	3
Total	130
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-48, 3-58, 4-88, 5-93, 6-107, 7-105, 8-115.	
BOWLING: Malcolm 5-0-17-1; Lee 5-0-11-0; Gough 8-1-28-1; Illingworth 12-4-48-2; Watson 5-0-26-0; Benkenstein 4-0-19-0.	

on. In Illingworth's next over, Pienaar was leg-before as he swept extravagantly, and Gibbs, who did not field during the England innings, dabbed to slip.

There followed a peculiar interlude as Page retired hurt to find his contest less and then returned, upon Benkenstein's dismissal, to carry the fight to Illingworth. Without his innings, and the late blows that Williams struck in a dying cause, the reply would have been thinner still.

England trooped off satisfied, to the unnecessary accompaniment of bad pop music on the speakers. There is a tour "first" to note, too. A young man in a Union Jack head towel offered a taste of what the South Africans can expect when the "Barney Army" decamps to rearside battles.

## New Zealand debut for Twose

BY SIMON WILDE

ROGER TWOSE, the England-born batsman, will make his first appearance for New Zealand today in the second Test match against India in Madras. Twose completed a residential qualification for New Zealand earlier this year and his selection will prevent him from resuming his seven-year-old career with Warwickshire, as he will no longer be counted as an England-qualified player.

Twose replaced Bryan Young, an opening batsman who has been dropped after New Zealand's three-day defeat in the first Test match in Bangalore last week.

Graham Halbish, the chief executive of the Australian Cricket Board (ACB), has changed his response to the findings of Pakistan's internal inquiry into allegations of match-fixing levelled at Salim Malik by Australian players.

Halbish said on Monday that the ACB "believes the issue has been satisfactorily resolved". Yesterday, he dismissed the inquiry's findings. "The board stands behind its players," he said.

"The ACB finds most regrettable the innuendo [in the inquiry's findings] that has appeared in the press that the statements were concocted and the players are liars. The ACB rejects that suggestion outright."



Twose: new allegiance

## Harlequins open door to new era

Christopher Irvine witnesses a marriage of convenience close to the heart of rugby

AFTER 100 years, rugby league has arrived at the doorstep of rugby union headquarters. London Broncos will play three Stanes Championship fixtures next month at the Stoop Memorial Ground, home of Harlequins and within 400 yards of Twickenham.

In the new climate of professionalism, the Harlequins club has done more than lower its establishment guard. It has enthusiastically welcomed the approach by the Broncos, for sound monetary reasons. The club is hoping to build a new stand to increase the present capacity of 8,500.

Harlequins' director of rugby, Dick Best, said yesterday: "The Broncos will be responsible for ticketing and organisation, but obviously we want to see how it goes in terms of crowds and the pitch itself. Rugby league is moving to the summer. We're in a professional business now and the use of facilities 12 months a year will be important. Times have changed and this tie-up is a natural progression. Before long, I feel we will end up

with one game, a hybrid of the two codes."

Harlequins' three-week groundshare is on a strict per-match leasing arrangement with the rugby league club, which made its approach last week. If successful, there is a possibility it could lead to a longer-term marriage of convenience. The Broncos will play two midweek night games there, against St Helens next Wednesday and Halifax on November 15.

The third "home" game is on November 19, the day after England play South Africa at Twickenham. On international match weekends, the Stoop is used for hospitality for the event over the road, so, on this occasion, the marquee must swiftly be brought down for the visit of Warrington.

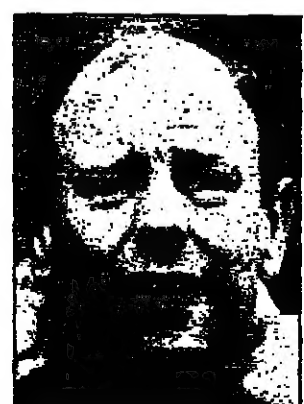
The London side have also arranged to play five league fixtures, starting with Friday's rearranged game

with Oldham, at The Valley, the home of Charlton Athletic Football Club. At present, this is seen as a more viable home for their first Super League season, starting next March, and brings the number of venues the Broncos have used since September to four, with Brentford Football Club's

Griffin Park and Barnet Copthall stadium, the latter remaining the club's administrative base.

Although the heavy symbolism of the venture was not lost on Harlequins, it was illuminated by the commercial possibilities. The Broncos team is mainly made up of expatriate Australian league players, but, for several visiting former union internationals, among them John Bentley, of England, and now Halifax, and Scott Gibbs, of Wales and now St Helens, the games will be their first active return to a union ground.

John Gallagher, the former New Zealand union full back, whose league career finished at London, has been training with Harlequins. While he awaits a definitive announcement by the Rugby Football Union on how long a player must serve before he can return to union, he might act as Harlequins' consultant in ground arrangements for the Broncos' games.



Best progression

Edwards out, page 44

## Football League will miss TV deal deadline

By JOHN GOODBODY

NEGOTIATIONS on the future of football on television reached an impasse yesterday, with the Football Association refusing to give the Football League an extension to a deadline to accept an agreement worth £18.5 million.

The Football League now has to gamble that the Premier League will eventually get a better five-year deal from the television companies in a new joint-package for all league matches in England.

The first division chairmen will meet in Leicester on November 15 to discuss the two options. However, the Premier League has yet to make any firm proposals, while the FA has said that, unless the Football League accepts its offer by 4pm tomorrow, the offer will be withdrawn.

It is ironic that the FA's own creation is challenging the governing body for a five-year television deal by wooing the very organisation which so resented the breakaway.

Football League representatives had a brief meeting at Lancaster "Globe" yesterday when they had a chance to accept a five-year, package worth £250 million, covering the FA Cup, all home England internationals, the Coca-Cola Cup and league games. Of this total, the Football League would get £18.5 million with the BBC, ITV and Sky sharing coverage.

A spokesman for the Football League said: "We made it clear that we continue to be extremely interested in the offer but that the ramifications of the offer and, more particularly, the complexities of the draft legal agreement which we received only last week are such that we are unable to meet the deadline for acceptance that they have imposed."

"We asked for an extension of the deadline. This was not conceded. We will continue to consider our position."

A spokesman for the Premier League said: "We have had preliminary discussions with the Football League. The Premier League is committed to the principle of ensuring stability throughout the professional game and believe a partnership with the Football League would increase TV bargaining power and improve the distribution of monies."

## Juninho's debut depends on official clearance

By LOUISE TAYLOR

JUNINHO is expected at Old Trafford on Saturday, but whether he will play for the substitutes' bench or link Middlesbrough's midfield and attack, nobody knows. Although Middlesbrough have received a work permit for their £4.75 million Brazilian import from São Paulo, club officials were still waiting for the transfer to receive international clearance last night.

Through a rubber-stamping exercise between Fifa, the world governing body, and the Brazilian football authorities, Juninho cannot leave Brazil until the paperwork is completed. Yesterday, his family waited, bags packed, for the requisite visas to be exchanged. Realistically, the earliest he can leave Brazil is tonight, which would see him arrive on Tessaide tomorrow.

Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, had originally insisted that if the player was not in training with his team by Tuesday, he would not play in the FA Carling Premiership match on Saturday.

Yesterday, however, Robson indicated that he would consider fielding Juninho if he were to arrive in time for training on Thursday. A Friday appearance would leave "no chance". Nevertheless, Robson must be tempted to stick with a side that has won their last five Premiership games, conceding just one goal in the process, against a formidable attack-minded Manchester United.

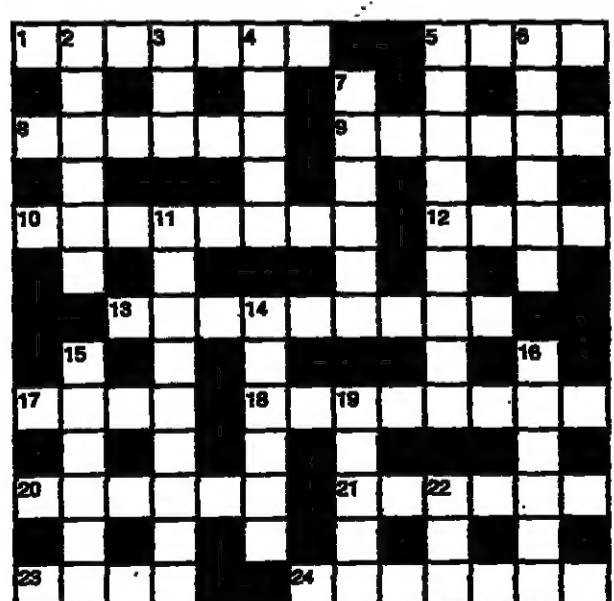
An Old Trafford amphitheatre graced by the likes of Cole, Cantona and Scholes is not the ideal venue in which to experiment. Indeed, how can Juninho, who does not speak English, be expected to get with players with whom he will barely have traded?

By way of a compromise — which would satisfy those 8,000 supporters who have purchased tickets to watch the match relayed on a giant screen at the Riverside Stadium — Juninho may be named as a substitute. Most observers believe his debut will be delayed until the match with Leeds United on Saturday week.

Secret world, page 46  
Quest spurned, page 46

TIMES TWO  
CROSSWORD

No 609



- ACROSS
- Melt (7)
  - Quick blow; a pastry (4)
  - Deviation from path (6)
  - Refer to higher authority (6)
  - Having the most space (8)
  - Top covering of house, car (4)
  - Viral fever (9)
  - Become menacingly dark (4)
  - In a poetic rhythm (8)
  - Collection of items tied up (6)
  - Encourage, ask (6)
  - Remain; a support (4)
  - Utter defeat, rout (7)
- DOWN
- Residue General Cromwell's son-in-law (6)
  - Mystery in sky (1,1,1)
  - Body of men; might (5)
  - Intrusive photographers (9)
  - Spouted, lidded vessel (6)
  - Fight; site of the Hastings one (6)
  - Loyal servant (after Defoe) (3,6)
  - Unwanted household items (6)
  - Sturdy, hardy (6)
  - Price-fixing association (6)
  - String; twist (5)
  - By way of (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 608

ACROSS: 1 So far so good. 7 Let up. 8 Nemesis. 10 Tenzity. 11 Curd. 13 Effete. 15 Bantam. 17 OPEC. 18 Gravamen. 21 Doubtless. 22 Lhasa. 23 Erroneously.

DOWN: 1 Split second. 2 Futon. 3 Rapacity. 4 Ornate. 5 Offends. 6 Disgust. 9 Sedimentary. 12 Mahout. 14 Freebie. 16 Prison. 19 Means. 20 Slur.

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD NO 604

In association with BRITISH MIDLAND

ACROSS: 1 Couch potato. 8 Wotan. 9 College. 10 Rom. 11 Dinosaur. 13 Geygaw. 14 Propel. 17 Implicit. 19 Mash. 22 Explicit. 23 Aloud. 24 Small change.

DOWN: 1 Cover. 2 Up to now. 3 Hung. 4 Orchid. 5 All fours. 6 Omega. 7 Petrol. 12 Mantraba. 13 Grimes. 15 Platoon. 16 Pistol. 18 Pepsy. 20 Hedge. 21 Hash.

1st PRIZE of a return ticket travelling economy class to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND's domestic or international network goes to M. Bowyer, St Sampsons, Guernsey.

2nd PRIZE of a return ticket to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND's domestic network goes to J. McIn. Melmerby, Ripon, N Yorks.

All flights subject to availability.

## Open...

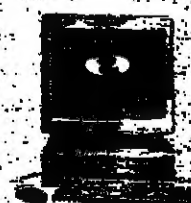
Your mainframe has gone to meet its maker. Now you have open systems, client/server architecture, distributed processing — call it what you like.

It works. And better still, costs less. But now there are 300 budding IT Directors on the network doing their own thing, wreaking havoc.

## View

Hewlett-Packard's OpenView is a suite of tools that work as your eyes and ears on the network. OpenView can also distribute software, reduce system bottlenecks and fix faults. What's more, it looks after multiple platforms including UNIX systems and personal computer networks.

View OpenView at a MorseData Technology Briefing. And prevent your "Open" dream becoming your worst nightmare.



MorseData

Profile West, 950 Green Street, Brentford, Middlesex, TW8 9JF

MORSE

10 Reasons Why  
Multimedia Time Machines '95  
INTEREST FREE CREDIT